

Ahilan T. Arulanantham (SBN 237841)
arulanantham@law.ucla.edu
CENTER FOR IMMIGRATION LAW AND
POLICY, UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW
385 Charles E. Young Dr. East
Los Angeles, CA 90095
Telephone: (310) 825-1029

Emilou MacLean (SBN 319071)
emaclean@aclunc.org
Michelle (Minju) Y. Cho (SBN 321939)
mcho@aclunc.org
Amanda Young (SBN 359753)
ayoung@aclunc.org
ACLU FOUNDATION
OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
39 Drumm Street
San Francisco, CA 94111-4805
Telephone: (415) 621-2493
Facsimile: (415) 863-7832

Attorneys for Plaintiffs
[Additional Counsel Listed on Next Page]

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

NATIONAL TPS ALLIANCE, MARIELA
GONZÁLEZ, FREDDY JOSE ARAPE RIVAS,
M.H., CECILIA DANIELA GONZÁLEZ
HERRERA, ALBA CECILIA PURICA
HERNÁNDEZ, E.R., HENDRINA VIVAS
CASTILLO, A.C.A., SHERIKA BLANC, VILES
DORSAINVIL, and G.S.,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

KRISTI NOEM, in her official capacity as
Secretary of Homeland Security, UNITED
STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
SECURITY, and UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:25-cv-01766-EMC

**DECLARATION OF EMILOU MACLEAN
IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION
FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

Date: July 11, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Courtroom 5, 17th Floor

1 Additional Counsel for Plaintiffs

2 Jessica Karp Bansal (SBN 277347)
jessica@ndlon.org

3 Lauren Michel Wilfong (*Pro Hac Vice*)
lwilfong@ndlon.org

4 NATIONAL DAY LABORER
ORGANIZING NETWORK

5 1030 S. Arroyo Parkway, Suite 106
Pasadena, CA 91105

6 Telephone: (626) 214-5689

7 Eva L. Bitran (SBN 302081)
ebitran@aclusocal.org

8 Diana Sanchez (SBN 338871)
dianasanchez@aclusocal.org

9 ACLU FOUNDATION
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

10 1313 West 8th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90017

11 Telephone: (213) 977-5236

12 Erik Crew (*Pro Hac Vice*)
ecrew@haitianbridge.org

13 HAITIAN BRIDGE ALLIANCE
4560 Alvarado Canyon Road, Suite 1H

14 San Diego, CA 92120

15 Telephone: (949) 603-7411

1 I, Emilou MacLean, declare as follows:

2 1. I am an attorney at law duly licensed and entitled to practice in the State of
3 California. I am a Senior Staff Attorney at ACLU Foundation of Northern California, counsel of
4 record in this action for Plaintiffs. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this declaration
5 and, if called as a witness, I could and would testify competently thereto.

6 2. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** is a true and correct copy of an email communication
7 produced by Defendants dated Friday, January 24, 2025 bearing the Bates range: NTPSA_000510–
8 NTPSA_000511. The initial email, at 8:39 PM, is from Christina McDonald at the Department of
9 Homeland Security (“DHS”) Office of General Counsel to DHS and U.S. Citizenship and
10 Immigration Services (“USCIS”) personnel, with the subject, “For review by 5 pm Sat: TPS Vacatur
11 for Venezuela.”

12 3. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 2** is a true and correct copy of an email communication
13 produced by Defendants dated Monday, January 27, 2025 bearing Bates number: NTPSA_000262.
14 The email is from DHS Senior Advisor and Acting General Counsel Joseph Mazzara to Christina
15 McDonald at the DHS Office of General Counsel, with the subject and attachment, “Memo – TPS
16 VZ Vacatur Final.pdf.”

17 4. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 3** is a true and correct copy of an email communication
18 produced by Defendants dated Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 6:12 PM bearing Bates number:
19 NTPSA_000253. The email is from Juliana Blackwell at the DHS Office of the Executive Secretary
20 to DHS Senior Advisor James Percival and Joseph Mazzara, cc: Clark Barrow and Christina
21 McDonald, with subject “Venezuela Vacatur Notice,” and attachments “Venezuela – Vacatur – FR –
22 SIGNED.pdf” and “Memo – TPS VZ Vacatur Final.pdf,” and text “Attached is the signed Venezuela
23 Vacatur Notice. Best, JJ.”

24 5. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 4** is a true and correct copy of a DHS Record of Clearance
25 and Approval for the “S1 Action Memo – USCIS Notice: Vacatur of January 10, 2025 Temporary
26 Protected Status Decision for Venezuela” signed by Secretary Kristi Noem on January 28, 2025,
27 produced by Defendants bearing Bates number: NTPSA_000003.

6. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 5** is a true and correct copy of privilege log entries provided by Defendants on May 19, 2025 and corrected on May 21, 2025, for Privilege Log Document Numbers NTPSA-DHS HQ_00000211, NTPSA-DHS HQ_00000374, NTPSA-DHS HQ_00000632, NTPSA-DHS HQ_00000677, NTPSA-DHS HQ_00000172, NTPSA_USCIS_00001617, NTPSA-DHS HQ_00000667, NTPSA_USCIS_00001620, NTPSA_USCIS_00001618, NTPSA-DHS HQ_00000623, NTPSA_USCIS_00001619, NTPSA-DHS HQ_00000670, and NTPSA-DHS HQ_00000474. The entries are dated between January 26 and January 28, 2025. NTPSA-DHS HQ_00000211 logs an email from Joseph Mazzara to James Percival dated January 26 1:42 PM with subject “FW: TPS VZ Termination: Draft Notice.” NTPSA-DHS HQ_00000474 logs an email dated January 28 12:05 PM from Joseph Mazzara to Juliana Blackwell, Senior Advisor Troup Hemenway, Senior Advisor Rob Law, James Percival, Senior Advisor Troy Edgar and DHS spokesperson Tricia McLaughlin, with subject “Re: [Review Request] TPS VZ Vacatur Notice.” The remainder are dated between January 27 and 28, with subject “RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters.”

7. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 6** is a true and correct copy of privilege log entries provided by Defendants on May 19, 2025 and corrected on May 21, 2025, for Privilege Log Document Numbers NTPSA_USCIS_00001623 and NTPSA_USCIS_00001371. NTPSA_USCIS_00001623 is an email dated January 28, 2025 at 12:41 PM from current USCIS Director Nominee Joseph Edlow to Ted Kim, senior leadership with USCIS Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate (“RAIO”), with subject “Venezuela country conditions,” and attachment “Relevant quotes from updated Venezuela COI sources (012825)_positive improvements highlighted.docx.” NTPSA_USCIS_00001371 is a document titled, “Relevant quotes from updated Venezuela COI sources (012825)_positive improvements highlighted.docx,” created January 28, 2025 at 12:35 PM.

8. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 7** is a true and correct copy of an email communication produced by Defendants dated Tuesday, January 28, 2025 1:38 PM bearing Bates number: NTPSA_000626. The email is from current USCIS Director Nominee Joseph Edlow to USCIS Acting Chief of Office of Policy & Strategy (“OP&S”) Samantha Deshommes to Ihsan Gunduz with

1 subject “FW: Venezuela country conditions,” and text “Sam and Ihsan, Connecting you both on the
 2 Venezuela TPS issue. Attached is the information pulled together from RAI0. Please share with the
 3 OPNS Team working on TPS. Joe.”

4 9. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 8** is a true and correct copy of a document produced by
 5 Defendants with the original file path
 6 “emma_k_krichinsky_uscis_dhs_gov\Documentss\Documents\RAIO Research 2025 DATED
 7 January 27, 2025” and bearing Bates number: NTPSA_000649. Defendants identified Emma
 8 Kirchinsky as an employee of USCIS RAI0.

9 10. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 9** is a true and correct copy of an email communication
 10 produced by Defendants dated Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 12:10 PM bearing Bates range:
 11 NTPSA_000467–NTPSA_000468. The email is from Samantha Deshommes to various USCIS
 12 personnel with subject, “URGENT: VZ Draft FRN – Due by 3 pm TODAY,” with substantive text
 13 redacted, and a subsequent email in the same chain from Samantha Deshommes at 4:21 PM, stating
 14 “For your viz, here is the version I am submitting to OGC now.”

15 11. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 10** is a true and correct copy of privilege log entries
 16 provided by Defendants on May 19, 2025 and corrected on May 21, 2025 for Privilege Log
 17 Document Numbers NTPSA_USCIS_00001503, NTPSA_USCIS_00001442, and
 18 NTPSA_USCIS_00002112. NTPSA_USCIS_00001503 is the first log entry Defendants identified
 19 as a communication pertaining to the decision to partially vacate TPS for Haiti. It is dated Thursday,
 20 February 6 at 5:51 PM, with a redacted subject line, attachment list, and file name.
 21 NTPSA_USCIS_00002112 is a document with the File Name: “FRN - Haiti TPS Partial Vacatur
 22 (DRAFT ONLY 2.7.25).docx,” created February 7, 2025 at 4:39 PM. NTPSA_USCIS_00001442 is
 23 an email dated Tuesday, February 11 at 1:39 PM, with subject “Options paper,” and attachment
 24 “Options Paper – Haiti TPS.docx.”

25 12. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 11** is a true and correct copy of an email communication
 26 produced by Defendants dated Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 6:43 PM bearing Bates number:
 27 NTPSA_000465. The email is from Sheila Mahmoudi to Joseph Edlow, copying others, with subject
 28 “FRN – Haiti TPS Partial Vacatur (DRAFT ONLY 2.7.25)_ARK_ops.docx,” and text “Ok thanks to

1 Alex and Amany we have the draft ready. Did you want us to send to OCC or will you send direct to
2 OGC?”

3 13. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 12** is a true and correct copy of the transcript for the
4 hearing for Plaintiffs’ Motion to Postpone Effective Agency Action before this Court on March 24,
5 2025.

6 14. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 13** is a true and correct copy of a Department of
7 Homeland Security Record of Clearance and Approval for the Termination of the October 3, 2023
8 Designation of Venezuela for Temporary Protected Status signed by Secretary Kristi Noem on
9 February 1, 2025, produced by Defendants bearing Bates number: NTPSA_000004.

10 15. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 14** is a true and correct copy of “Table A”, which lists the
11 country, date, and duration of all Temporary Protected Status (TPS) extensions between April 2005
12 and the present.

13 16. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 15** is a true and correct copy of a Department of
14 Homeland Security press release titled “Secretary Noem Rescinds Previous Administration’s
15 Extension of Haiti’s Temporary Protected Status” published on February 20, 2025. The press release
16 is also available at [https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/02/20/secretary-noem-rescinds-extension-haitis-](https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/02/20/secretary-noem-rescinds-extension-haitis-temporary-protected-status)
17 [temporary-protected-status](https://www.dhs.gov/news/2025/02/20/secretary-noem-rescinds-extension-haitis-temporary-protected-status).

18 17. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 16** is a true and correct copy of a report by the U.S.
19 Government Accountability Office (GAO) on “Temporary Protected Status: Steps Taken to Inform
20 and Communicate Secretary of Homeland Security’s Decisions,” published April 3, 2020. The report
21 is also available at <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-20-134.pdf>.

22 18. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 17** is a true and correct copy of a certified transcript of the
23 January 15, 2025 confirmation hearing of Secretary Kristi Noem. The video is available for viewing
24 at available at [https://www.cspan.org/program/senate-committee/homeland-security-secretary-](https://www.cspan.org/program/senate-committee/homeland-security-secretary-nominee-gov-kristi-noem-testifiesat-confirmation-hearing/654484)
25 [nominee-gov-kristi-noem-testifiesat-confirmation-hearing/654484](https://www.cspan.org/program/senate-committee/homeland-security-secretary-nominee-gov-kristi-noem-testifiesat-confirmation-hearing/654484). At approximately 1:51:50,
26 Secretary Noem states, “[TPS] has been abused and manipulated by the Biden Administration, and
27 that will no longer be allowed . . . and these extensions going forward the way that they are.”
28 Secretary Noem adds, “this extension [of TPS] of over 600,000 Venezuelans [] is alarming when

1 you look at what we've seen in different states including Colorado with gangs doing damage and
2 harming the individuals and the people that live there." The program was intended to be
3 temporary[.]"

4 19. Attached as **Exhibit 18** is a true and correct copy of a certified transcript of a January
5 29, 2025 interview of Secretary Kristi Noem on "Fox and Friends." The video is available for
6 viewing at

7 <https://www.foxnews.com/video/6367942790112?msocid=30416397acd261bf24f1707bad686037>.

8 At approximately 1:00, Secretary Noem states, "today we signed an executive order within the
9 Department of Homeland Security and a direction that we were not going to follow through on what
10 he did to tie our hands, that we are going to follow the process, evaluate all of these individuals that
11 are in our country, including the Venezuelans that are here and members of TdA [transnational gang
12 Tren de Aragua]. Listen, . . . the people of this country want these dirtbags out. They want their
13 communities to be safe . . . So, this is part of our plan to make sure we are protecting America and
14 keeping it safe again, just like President Trump promised." Secretary Noem described ending TPS
15 for Venezuelans as necessary in order to "evaluate all of these individuals that are in our country."

16 20. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 19** is a true and correct copy of an article by Damita
17 Menezes and Ali Bradley, dated October 2, 2024, titled *Trump on Springfield Haitian migrants:*
18 *'They have to be removed'*, NEWSNATION, available at
19 [https://www.newsnationnow.com/politics/2024-election/trump-springfield-haitian-migrants-](https://www.newsnationnow.com/politics/2024-election/trump-springfield-haitian-migrants-removed/)
20 [removed/](https://www.newsnationnow.com/politics/2024-election/trump-springfield-haitian-migrants-removed/). The article includes a video of an interview with President Trump, who, when asked
21 whether Haitian TPS holders in Springfield, Ohio were "legal or illegal" at approximately the 12:00
22 mark of the video, answered that: "You have to remove [Haitians]; you cannot destroy our country
23 . . . In my opinion, it's not legal . . . Absolutely I would revoke [TPS]."

24 21. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 20** is a true and correct copy of a video of a September 18,
25 2024 campaign speech by then-Senator JD Vance in Raleigh, North Carolina on C-SPAN. The video
26 is available for viewing at [https://www.c-span.org/program/campaign-2024/senator-jd-vance-](https://www.c-span.org/program/campaign-2024/senator-jd-vance-campaigns-in-raleigh-north-carolina/649012)
27 [campaigns-in-raleigh-north-carolina/649012](https://www.c-span.org/program/campaign-2024/senator-jd-vance-campaigns-in-raleigh-north-carolina/649012). When asked about TPS for Haiti at approximately the
28 41:00 mark of the video, then-Senator Vance stated: "The media loves to say that the Haitian

1 migrants, hundreds of thousands of them, by the way . . . they are here legally. And what they mean
 2 is that Kamala Harris used two separate programs, mass parole and temporary protective status. She
 3 used two programs to wave a wand and to say we're not going to deport those people here. Well, if
 4 Kamala Harris waves the wand illegally and says these people are now here legally, I'm still going
 5 to call them an illegal alien. An illegal action from Kamala Harris does not make an alien legal."

6 22. Attached as **Exhibit 21** is a true and correct copy of a certified transcript of a
 7 February 2, 2025 interview of Secretary Kristi Noem, Missouri Senator Eric Schmitt and Arizona
 8 Senator Mark Kelly on the "Meet the Press." The video is available for viewing at
 9 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FpeMXrvxHco>. At approximately 16:25, Secretary Kristi Noem
 10 states "The TPP [sic] program has been abused and it doesn't have integrity right now." At
 11 approximately 16:27, Secretary Kristi Noem states: "Folks from Venezuela that have come into this
 12 country are members of TdA. And remember, Venezuela purposely emptied out their prisons,
 13 emptied out their mental health facilities and sent them to the United States of America. So we are
 14 ending that extension of that program, adding some integrity back into it, and this administration is
 15 evaluating all of our programs to make sure that they truly are something that is to the benefit of the
 16 United States, so they are not for the benefit of criminals."

17 23. Attached as **Exhibit 22** is a true and correct copy of an article by Jonathan Weisman
 18 dated September 15, 2024, titled How the False Story of a Gang 'Takeover' in Colorado Reached
 19 Trump, N.Y. TIMES, and available at [https://www.nytimes.com/2024/09/15/us/politics/trump-](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/09/15/us/politics/trump-auroracolorado-immigration.html)
 20 [auroracolorado-immigration.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/09/15/us/politics/trump-auroracolorado-immigration.html). The article claims that President Trump perpetuated a false story
 21 on the campaign trail of a gang takeover in Aurora, Colorado.

22 24. Attached as **Exhibit 23** is an article by Robert Farley and Catalina Jaramillo titled
 23 Crime Drop in Venezuela Does Not Prove Trump's Claim the Country Is Sending Criminals to U.S.,
 24 FACTCHECK.ORG (Jun. 14, 2024). It is available at [https://www.factcheck.org/2024/06/crime-](https://www.factcheck.org/2024/06/crime-dropin-venezuela-does-not-prove-trumps-claim-the-country-is-sending-criminals-to-u-s/)
 25 [dropin-venezuela-does-not-prove-trumps-claim-the-country-is-sending-criminals-to-u-s/](https://www.factcheck.org/2024/06/crime-dropin-venezuela-does-not-prove-trumps-claim-the-country-is-sending-criminals-to-u-s/). The article
 26 states that there is "no evidence that the Venezuelan government is emptying the prisons or mental
 27 hospitals to send them out of the country[.]" The article quotes Carlos Nieto of a Venezuelan NGO
 28 monitoring the prison situation in Venezuela stating: "there is nothing that can be affirmed that

1 establishes that there is an agreement, or that the Venezuelan government is helping criminals leave
 2 Venezuela to go to the United States.” Nieto added: “there definitely is no official state policy to that
 3 effect.” The article quotes Roberto Briceño-León, the founder and director of The Venezuelan
 4 Observatory of Violence, that emigrants from Venezuela are “honest workers fleeing the country’s
 5 poverty, looking for a job and a better future.” The article also noted that “[t]he vast majority of
 6 those fleeing Venezuela have settled in nearby South American countries.”

7 25. Attached as **Exhibit 24** is a true and correct copy of a February 26, 2024 social media
 8 post by Secretary Kristi Noem on the X social media platform using the handle “@KristiNoem,”
 9 which is also available at <https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1762195636491825295>. The post contains
 10 a video in which Secretary Noem states, “Nations like Venezuela are emptying their prisons of
 11 dangerous criminals to send them to America. They are happy to let America’s open border be the
 12 solution to their problem.”

13 26. Attached as **Exhibit 25** is a true and correct copy of a February 28, 2024, social
 14 media post by Secretary Krii Noem on the X social media platform using the handle
 15 “@KristiNoem,” which is also available at <https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1762650522920652828>.
 16 In that post, she said, “Venezuela didn’t send us their best. They emptied their prisons and sent
 17 criminals to America. Deportations need to start on DAY ONE of [President Trump’s] term” in
 18 office.

19 27. Attached as **Exhibit 26** is a true and correct copy of a March 6, 2024 social media
 20 post by Secretary Kristi Noem on the X social media platform using the handle “@KristiNoem,”
 21 which is also available at <https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1765513039795601862>. The post contains
 22 a video of Secretary Noem discussing immigration and the caption reads, “[c]ountries like
 23 Venezuela are emptying their prisons, their mental institutions, and sending them to America. The
 24 White House is facilitating this invasion. They’re doing it on purpose.”

25 28. Attached as **Exhibit 27** is a true and correct copy of a March 14, 2024 social media
 26 post by Secretary Kristi Noem on the X social media platform using the handle “@KristiNoem,”
 27 which is also available at <https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1768312288560247199>. In the post,
 28

1 Secretary Noem states, “At least 300,000 illegal immigrants from Venezuela have been encountered
2 at the border. Remember, Venezuela emptied their prisons and told them to come to America.”

3 29. Attached as **Exhibit 28** is a true and correct copy of a December 9, 2024 social media
4 post by Secretary Kristi Noem on the Instagram social media platform using the handle
5 “@KristiNoem,” which is also available at
6 <https://www.instagram.com/kristinoem/reel/DDVjJnURRqw/>. In the post, she states, “nations like
7 Venezuela are using our open border to solve their own crime and mental health crises.”

8 30. I have reviewed, with co-counsel, all Federal Register Notices from all previous TPS
9 designations, re-designations, extensions, and terminations for all countries. In the 35-year history of
10 the TPS statute, and prior to the vacatur and termination of TPS for Venezuela at issue in this
11 litigation, no Secretary has ever terminated a TPS designation on the basis that it was contrary to
12 national interest. In addition, in virtually all instances where a DHS Secretary announced the length
13 of a TPS designation or extension, they did so without elaborating their reasons for choosing that
14 duration and not another duration length. There are only exceedingly rare instances where
15 Secretaries have provided any explanation for the duration of a designation or extension—for
16 instance, in the last extension of TPS for Haiti in 2017 before the termination that never went into
17 effect during the first Trump administration, 82 Fed. Reg. 23380 (May 24, 2017); or where the
18 Secretary identified that there was anticipated recovery over the course of a year in Nicaragua,
19 justifying a 12-month extension, 66 Fed. Reg. 23271 (May 8, 2001). Secretaries have never
20 explained their conclusion that “permitting [TPS beneficiaries] to remain temporarily in the United
21 States” is not “contrary to the national interest.” It is also not uncommon for Secretaries to have
22 considered facts both close in time to and further from the determination when conducting a TPS
23 periodic review.

24
25 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the
26 foregoing is true and correct.

27 Executed on June 3, 2025, in San Francisco, California.
28

/s/ Emilou MacLean
Emilou MacLean

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

Exhibit 1

From: McDonald, Christina (OGC) [Redacted PII]
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2025 11:14 PM
To: Edlow, Joseph B [Redacted PII]
Cc: Baroukh, Nader [Redacted PII]
Subject: RE: For review by 5 pm Sat: TPS Vacatur for Venezuela
Attach: TPS Vacatur - Venezuela.docx

Joe: Attached is the doc as an attachment.

Btw – the doc is in my OneDrive cloud (not SharePoint). I could move it into SharePoint if you think you can access that instead. I had a similar situation with ICE and CBP earlier this week – but we solved it by having them click on the link and request access.

Christina E. McDonald

[Redacted PII]

From: Edlow, Joseph B [Redacted PII]
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2025 9:19 PM
To: McDonald, Christina (OGC) [Redacted PII] Browne, Rene [Redacted PII] Smith, Laura (HQ) [Redacted PII] Kelliher, Brian [Redacted PII] LAW, ROB [Redacted PII]
Cc: Havranek, John [Redacted PII] Baroukh, Nader [Redacted PII]
Subject: RE: For review by 5 pm Sat: TPS Vacatur for Venezuela

I hate to do this piecemeal but I also don't want to waste time...can you just send me the doc in its current form as an attachment and I'll add in my part...hopefully I'll be able to get access to sharepoint and ultimately be able to just incorporate.


From: McDonald, Christina (OGC) [Redacted PII]
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2025 8:39 PM
To: Browne, Rene [Redacted PII] Smith, Laura (HQ) [Redacted PII] Kelliher, Brian [Redacted PII] LAW, ROB [Redacted PII] Edlow, Joseph B <[Redacted PII]>
Cc: Havranek, John [Redacted PII] Baroukh, Nader [Redacted PII]
Subject: For review by 5 pm Sat: TPS Vacatur for Venezuela
Importance: High

You don't often get email from [Redacted PII] [Learn why this is important](#)

nee/Laura, Brian, Rob, and Joe E:

Available, for your review, is the first (rough) draft of the TPS Venezuela Vacatur notice that Nader and I prepared this evening. Joseph Mazzara set our deadline for 1 pm on Sunday.

By 5 pm on Saturday, can you folks complete your review and draft your parts? Then, we can finalize the document on Sunday morning.

Please work in following link:  [TPS Vacatur - Venezuela.docx](#) (Joe Edlow – The system won't let me tag you, and it tells me here you don't have access. There are 2 other ways to get you access, and I did both: (1) I sent you an email with a link (Try that). (2) If that doesn't work, please click on this link – then click on the "request access" link. Once I accept that request, you should be able to access the document).

Thank you.

Christina E. McDonald
Associate General Counsel
for Regulatory Affairs
Office of the General Counsel
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Redacted PII

Exhibit 2

From: Mazzara, Joseph [Redacted PII]
[Redacted PII]
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 8:42 PM
To: McDonald, Christina (OGC) <[Redacted]>
Subject: Memo - TPS VZ Vacatur Final.pdf
Attach: Memo - TPS VZ Vacatur Final.pdf

Exhibit 3

From: Blackwell, Juliana [Redacted PII]
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 6:12 PM
To: PERCIVAL, JAMES [Redacted PII] Mazzara, Joseph
[Redacted PII]
Cc: BARROW, CLARK [Redacted PII] McDonald, Christina (OGC)
[Redacted PII]
Subject: Venezuela Vacatur Notice
Attach: Venezuela - Vacatur - FR - SIGNED.pdf, Memo - TPS VZ Vacatur Final.pdf

Attached is the signed Venezuela Vacatur Notice.

Best,
JJ

Juliana J. Blackwell
Office of the Executive Secretary
Department of Homeland Security

[Redacted PII]

Exhibit 4

FOR VENEZUELA

SUMMARY: USCIS FRN - VACATUR OF JANUARY 10 2025 TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS DECISION

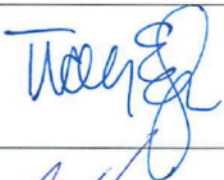


ES 25-07092 TYPE OF ACTION: S1 SIGNATURE

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY		STORM #	SENIOR LIAISON OFFICER:
RECORD OF CLEARANCE AND APPROVAL		25-07092	LAWRENCE INDYK
LEAD COMPONENT: MGMT-SE	DATE SUBMITTED TO S1 FO: 1/28/25	DRAFT RECEIVED DATE: 1/28/25	

SUMMARY OF DOCUMENT: S1 ACTION MEMO - USCIS NOTICE: VACATUR OF JANUARY 10, 2025 TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS DECISION FOR VENEZUELA

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. DECISION DOCUMENT
- B. PACKAGE FROM JANUARY 10, 2025 – DRAFT FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE
- C. PACKAGE FROM JANUARY 10, 2025 – TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS LEGAL AUTHORITY
- D. PACKAGE FROM JANUARY 10, 2025 – USCIS COUNTRY CONDITIONS REPORT
- E. PACKAGE FROM JANUARY 10, 2025 – DOS RECOMMENDATION AND COUNTRY CONDITIONS
- F. PACKAGE FROM JANUARY 10, 2025 – D1 MEMO
- G. PACKAGE FROM JANUARY 10, 2025 – FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE DATED JANUARY 17, 2025
- H. PACKAGE FROM JANUARY 10, 2025 – DECISION DOCUMENT SIGNED JANUARY 10, 2025

OFFICE	SIGNATURE	DATE	COMMENTS
SENIOR ADVISOR (ROBERT LAW)	CLEARED	1/28/25	
SENIOR ADVISOR (JIMMY PERCIVAL)	CLEARED	1/28/25	
SENIOR ADVISOR (TROUP HEMENWAY)	CLEARED	1/28/25	
SENIOR ADVISOR (TROY EDGAR)		1/28/25	
AS2		1/28/25	
S1		1/28/25	

AFTER REVIEW RETURN TO:
NANCY CLARK, EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

TELEPHONE

Exhibit 5

Exhibit 5

DOCID	CUSTODIAN	FROM	To	CC	DATE TIME SENT	DATE TIME RCVD	SUBJECT	FILENAME	DATE TIME CRTD	DATE TIME MOD	DOCDATE	TAG - Privilege	TAG - Privilege Description
NTPSA-DHSHQ_00000211	James Percival	Mazzara, Joe	PERCIVAL, JAMES		1/28/2025 13:42	1/28/2025 13:42	FW: TPS VZ Termination: Draft Notice.htm	FW: TPS VZ Termination: Draft Notice.htm			1/28/2025	AC - Attorney Client; DP - Deliberative Process	Email communications reflecting predecisional, deliberative discussions among DHS counsel regarding policy options and legal advice for Venezuela TPS.
NTPSA-DHSHQ_00000374	Joseph Mazzara	Unspecified Sender		PERCIVAL, JAMES; Baroudh, Nader; Kellher, Brian; Edlow, Joseph B; PHAM, TONY; McDonald, Christina (OCO); ROB	1/27/2025 10:28	1/27/2025 10:28	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters.htm			1/27/2025	AC - Attorney Client; DP - Deliberative Process	Email communications reflecting predecisional, deliberative discussions among DHS counsel and legal advice for Venezuela TPS.
NTPSA-DHSHQ_00000632	Tony Pham	GUNDUZ, HSIAN	PHAM, TONY	Baroudh, Nader; Brown, Rene; Smith, Laura (HQ); Hayranek, John; Edlow, Joseph B	1/27/2025 10:46	1/27/2025 10:46	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters.htm			1/27/2025	AC - Attorney Client; DP - Deliberative Process	Email communications reflecting predecisional, deliberative discussions among DHS counsel and legal advice for Venezuela TPS.
NTPSA-USCIB_00001617	Joseph B. Edlow	Mazzara, Joseph	PERCIVAL, JAMES; Kellher, Brian; LAW, ROB; McDonald, Christina (OCO); PHAM, TONY		1/28/2025 11:38	1/28/2025 11:38	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters.htm			1/28/2025	AC - Attorney Client; DP - Deliberative Process	Email communications reflecting predecisional, deliberative discussions among DHS counsel and legal advice for Venezuela TPS.
NTPSA-USCIB_00001618	Joseph B. Edlow	Mazzara, Joseph	PERCIVAL, JAMES; Edlow, Joseph B; Kellher, Brian; LAW, ROB; McDonald, Christina (OCO); PHAM, TONY	Baroudh, Nader; Brown, Rene; Smith, Laura (HQ); Hayranek, John	1/28/2025 12:05	1/28/2025 12:05	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters.htm			1/28/2025	AC - Attorney Client; DP - Deliberative Process	Email communications reflecting predecisional, deliberative discussions among DHS counsel and legal advice for Venezuela TPS.
NTPSA-USCIB_00001619	Joseph B. Edlow	Mazzara, Joseph	LAW, ROB; PERCIVAL, JAMES; Edlow, Joseph B; Kellher, Brian; McDonald, Christina (OCO); PHAM, TONY	Baroudh, Nader; Brown, Rene; Smith, Laura (HQ); Hayranek, John	1/28/2025 12:43	1/28/2025 12:43	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters.htm			1/28/2025	AC - Attorney Client; DP - Deliberative Process	Email communications reflecting predecisional, deliberative discussions among DHS counsel and legal advice for Venezuela TPS.
NTPSA-USCIB_00001620	Joseph B. Edlow	Mazzara, Joseph	Edlow, Joseph B; PERCIVAL, JAMES; Kellher, Brian; LAW, ROB; McDonald, Christina (OCO); PHAM, TONY	Baroudh, Nader; Brown, Rene; Smith, Laura (HQ); Hayranek, John	1/28/2025 12:02	1/28/2025 12:02	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters.htm			1/28/2025	AC - Attorney Client; DP - Deliberative Process	Email communications reflecting predecisional, deliberative discussions among DHS counsel and legal advice for Venezuela TPS.
NTPSA-DHSHQ_00000172	James Percival	PERCIVAL, JAMES	LAW, ROB		1/28/2025 10:57	1/28/2025 10:57	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters.htm			1/28/2025	AC - Attorney Client; DP - Deliberative Process	Email communications reflecting predecisional, deliberative discussions among DHS counsel and legal advice for Venezuela TPS. Communications regarding options.
NTPSA-DHSHQ_00000474	SZIDE	Mazzara, Joseph	Blackwell, Juliana; HEHENWAX, TROUP; LAW, ROB; PERCIVAL, JAMES; EDGAR, TROY; McLaughlin, Trish	Faouat, Stephanie; BARROW, CLARK	1/28/2025 12:05	1/28/2025 12:05	RE: (Review Request) TPS VZ Vacatur Notice	RE: (Review Request) TPS VZ Vacatur Notice.htm			1/28/2025	AC - Attorney Client; DP - Deliberative Process	Email communications reflecting predecisional, deliberative discussions regarding Venezuela TPS.
NTPSA-DHSHQ_00000623	Tony Pham	PHAM, TONY	Rosenblum, Marc; GUNDUZ, HSIAN		1/28/2025 12:32	1/28/2025 12:32	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters.htm			1/28/2025	DP - Deliberative Process	Email communications reflecting predecisional, deliberative discussions regarding Venezuela TPS.
NTPSA-DHSHQ_00000687	Tony Pham	Mazzara, Joseph	PERCIVAL, JAMES; Kellher, Brian; LAW, ROB; McDonald, Christina (OCO); PHAM, TONY	Baroudh, Nader; Brown, Rene; Smith, Laura (HQ); Hayranek, John; Edlow, Joseph B	1/28/2025 11:58	1/28/2025 11:58	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters.htm			1/28/2025	AC - Attorney Client	Email communications among DHS counsel regarding requirements for TPS administrative record.
NTPSA-DHSHQ_00000670	Tony Pham	Mazzara, Joseph	LAW, ROB; PERCIVAL, JAMES; Edlow, Joseph B; Kellher, Brian; McDonald, Christina (OCO); PHAM, TONY	Baroudh, Nader; Brown, Rene; Smith, Laura (HQ); Hayranek, John	1/28/2025 12:43	1/28/2025 12:43	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters.htm			1/28/2025	AC - Attorney Client	Email communications reflecting predecisional, deliberative discussions among DHS counsel and legal advice for Venezuela TPS.
NTPSA-DHSHQ_00000677	Tony Pham	GUNDUZ, HSIAN	PHAM, TONY		1/28/2025 10:36	1/28/2025 10:36	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters	RE: TPS VZ Termination: Data & Policy Matters.htm			1/28/2025	AC - Attorney Client; DP - Deliberative Process	Pre-decisional, deliberative memorandum from USCIB Director providing mental impressions and recommendations to Secretary relating to Venezuela TPS.
NTPSA-USCIB_00000211	CFOMKS							Venezuela memo_20250130_A01 PH_OPS Response_Scott (Clean).pdf	1/31/2025 13:22	1/31/2025 13:23	1/31/2025	DP - Deliberative Process	TPS

Exhibit 6

DOCID	CUSTODIAN	FROM	To	CG	DATE TIME SENT	DATE TIME RCVD	SUBJECT	ATTACHLIST	FILENAME	DATE TIME CFTD	DATE TIME MOD	DOCDATE	TAG - Privilege	TAG - Privilege Description
NTPSA_USKIS_000016 23	Joseph B. Edlow	Min, Ted H	Edlow, Joseph B		1/28/2025 12:41	1/28/2025 12:41	Venezuela country conditions	Relevant quotes from updated Venezuela CFI, (012825)_Positive improvements highlighted.docx	Venezuela country conditions.htm			1/28/2025	DP - Deliberative Process;	Email communications reflecting predecisional, deliberative discussions among DHS regarding Venezuela TPS. Predecisional.
NTPSA_USKIS_000013 71	Samantha L. Desbarnettes							Relevant quotes from updated Venezuela CFI, (012825)_Positive improvements highlighted.docx		1/28/2025 12:35	1/28/2025 12:38	1/28/2025	DP - Deliberative Process	Deliberative communications among DHS regarding Venezuela TPS decisionmaking.

Exhibit 7

From: Edlow, Joseph B [Redacted PII]
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 1:34 PM
To: Deshommes, Samantha L [Redacted PII] GUNDUZ, IHSAN
Subject: FW: Venezuela country conditions
Attach: [Redacted PII]

Sam and Ihsan,
Connecting you both on the Venezuela TPS issue. Attached is the information pulled together from
RAIO. Please share with the OPNS Team working on TPS.
Joe

Exhibit 8

- US rejects Venezuelan President Maduro's reelection, but keeps financial lifeline for his government, The Associated Press, Jan. 18, 2025.
- US recognizes Venezuela's opposition candidate as president-elect months after the disputed election, The Associated Press, Nov. 19, 2024.
- Venezuela: Reversing the Slide into Dictatorship, International Crisis Group, Oct. 15, 2024.
- Independent election experts legitimize tally sheets Venezuela's opposition says prove Maduro lost, The Associated Press, Oct. 2, 2024.

Exhibit 9

From: Deshommes, Samantha L <[Redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 4:21 PM
To: Nolan, Connie L <[Redacted]>; Ezeldin, Amany S <[Redacted]>; Ridley, Sasha M <[Redacted]>; Cutlip-Mason, Rená E <[Redacted]>; Noncent, Karine A <[Redacted]>; King, Alexander R <[Redacted]>; Vagle, Ruhee V <[Redacted]>
Subject: RE: URGENT: VZ Draft FRN - Due by 3 pm TODAY
Attach: TPS VZ Termination 2025-01-29 at 226 pm_USCIS review.docx

For your viz, here is the version I am submitting to OGC now. Thanks again!

From: Deshommes, Samantha L
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 4:12 PM
To: Nolan, Connie L <[Redacted]>; Ezeldin, Amany S <[Redacted]>; Ridley, Sasha M <[Redacted]>; Cutlip-Mason, Rená E <[Redacted]>; Noncent, Karine A <[Redacted]>; King, Alexander R <[Redacted]>; Vagle, Ruhee V <[Redacted]>
Subject: RE: URGENT: VZ Draft FRN - Due by 3 pm TODAY

Thanks, everyone. Looks like all have completed their review, so I'll pull this down and get it back to OGC unless you alert by 4:15 pm.

From: Nolan, Connie L <[Redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 12:20 PM
To: Deshommes, Samantha L <[Redacted]>; Ezeldin, Amany S <[Redacted]>; Ridley, Sasha M <[Redacted]>; Cutlip-Mason, Rená E <[Redacted]>; Noncent, Karine A <[Redacted]>; King, Alexander R <[Redacted]>
Subject: RE: URGENT: VZ Draft FRN - Due by 3 pm TODAY

Thanks Sam, I am sure Alex is already all over it ●

Connie Nolan
 Associate Director
 Service Center Operations
 USCIS, DHS

Redacted

SCOPS Communications HUB



Collaboration: *Building partnerships and relationships*

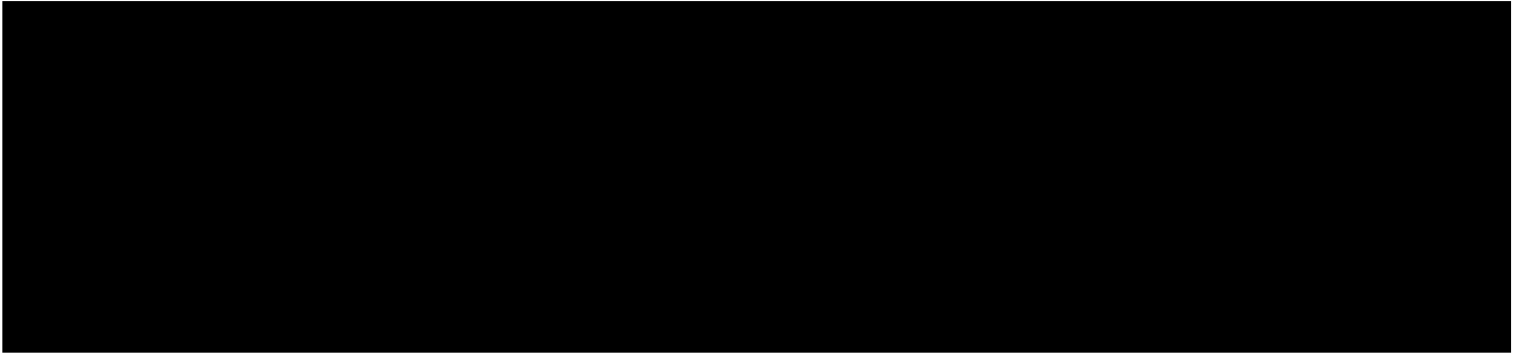
From: Deshommes, Samantha L <[Redacted]>
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 12:10 PM
To: Ezeldin, Amany S <[Redacted]>; Ridley, Sasha M <[Redacted]>; Cutlip-Mason, Rená E <[Redacted]>; Noncent, Karine A <[Redacted]>; Nolan, <[Redacted]>

Connie L <[Redacted]>; King, Alexander R <[Redacted]>

Subject: URGENT: VZ Draft FRN - Due by 3 pm TODAY

Importance: High

Hi all,



Thank you!

Sam

Samantha Deshommes
(Acting) Chief,
Office of Policy & Strategy
U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services, DHS

[Redacted]

This email, along with any attachments, is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) and may contain information that is sensitive or protected by applicable law. Unauthorized use or dissemination of this email and any attachments is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete or destroy all copies.

Exhibit 10

DOCID	CUSTODIAN	FROM	To	CC	DATE TIME SENT	DATE TIME RCVD	SUBJECT	ATTACHMENT	FILENAME	DATE TIME CRTD	DATE TIME MOD	DOC DATE	TAG - Privilege	TAG - Privilege Description
NTPSA_USCIB_000015 0	Joseph B. Edlow	Edlow, Joseph B	PERCIVAL, JAMES	JAW, ROB	2/6/2025 17:51	2/6/2025 17:51	REDACTED as reflecting subject of privileged Attorney-Client Communications	REDACTED as reflecting subject of privileged Attorney-Client Communications				2/6/2025	AC - Attorney Client DP - Deliberative	Email communications reflecting predictions, deliberative discussions among DHS counsel and DHS regarding policy options and legal advice for Haiti TPS
NTPSA_USCIB_000014 42	Joseph B. Edlow	Derhommies, Samantha L	Calliam, Aaron L ; Edlow, Joseph B		2/11/2025 13:38	2/11/2025 13:38	Options paper	Options Paper -Haiti TPS.docx	Options paper.htm			2/11/2025	AC - Attorney Client DP - Deliberative	Predictions, deliberative communication regarding attorney recommendations for Venezuela TPS
NTPSA_USCIB_000021 12	Joseph B. Edlow								FRN - Haiti TPS Partial Vacatur (DRAFT ONLY) 7.255.docx	2/7/2025 18:38	2/7/2025 18:44	2/12/2025	AC - Attorney Client DP - Deliberative	Predictions, deliberative draft document reflecting possible policy decision for Haiti TPS sent among DHS counsel for legal review

Exhibit 11

From: Mahmoudi, Sheila C <[Redacted]>
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2025 6:43 PM
To: Edlow, Joseph B <[Redacted]>
Cc: Nolan, Connie L <[Redacted]>; Selby, Cara M (Carrie)
<[Redacted]>; King, Alexander R
<[Redacted]>; Deshommes, Samantha L
<[Redacted]>; Ezeldin, Amany S
<[Redacted]>
Subject: For USCIS input: TPS Haiti Vacatur Notice
Attach: FRN - Haiti TPS Partial Vacatur (DRAFT ONLY 2.7.25)_ARK_ops.docx

Ok thanks to Alex and Amany we have the draft ready. Did you want us to send to OCC or will you be sending direct to OGC?

-Sheila

Exhibit 12

PAGES 1 - 123

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Before The Honorable Edward M. Chen, Judge

NATIONAL TPS ALLIANCE, MARIELA)
GONZALEZ, FREEDY JOSE ARAPE)
RIVAS, M.H., CECILIA DANIELA)
GONZALEZ HERRERA, AHA CECILIA)
PURICA HERNANDEZ, E.R., and)
HENDRINA VIVAS CASTILLO,)

Plaintiffs,)

VS.)

NO. 3:25-CV-01766-EMC

KRISTI NOEM, in her official)
capacity as Secretary of)
Homeland Security, UNITED STATES)
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY,)
and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)

Defendants.)

San Francisco, California
Monday, March 24, 2025

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

APPEARANCES:

For Plaintiffs:

UCLA School of Law
35 Charles E. Young Drive East
Box 951476
Los Angeles, California 90095

BY: AHILAN T. ARULANANTHAM, ATTORNEY AT LAW

(APPEARANCES CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE)

REPORTED BY: April Wood Brott, CSR No. 13782
Official United States Reporter

APPEARANCES: (CONTINUED)

For Plaintiffs:

ACLU Foundation of Northern California
39 Drumm Street
San Francisco, California 94111

BY: EMILOU MACLEAN, ATTORNEY AT LAW
AMANDA YOUNG, ATTORNEY AT LAW

National Day Laborer Organizing Network
1030 S. Arroyo Parkway, Suite 106
Pasadena, California 91105

BY: JESSICA KARP BANSAL, ATTORNEY AT LAW
LAUREN M. WILFONG, ATTORNEY AT LAW

Haitian Bridge Alliance
4560 Alvarado Canyon Road
San Diego, California 92120

BY: ERIK M. CREW, ATTORNEY AT LAW

For Defendants:

DOJ/Civil/Office of Immigration Litigation
P.O. Box 868 Ben Franklin Station
Washington, DC 20044

BY: SARAH L. VUONG, ATTORNEY AT LAW
ANNA DICHTER, ATTORNEY AT LAW

1 decision based on an assessment of country conditions, based on
2 foreign relations and this sort of thing, but really kind of
3 looking at procedurally whether Secretary Mayorkas essentially
4 screwed up and caused confusion, did something in violation of
5 the TPS statute, created a sort of procedural problem that
6 needed to be fixed.

7 Putting aside the merits of that, isn't that the kind of
8 thing that is not necessarily within the agency's expertise and
9 doesn't depend on the records of individual TPS beneficiaries
10 or specific facts about the country? It could have been about
11 any country. I mean, it didn't have to be about -- if he had
12 done the same thing with Haiti or El Salvador, the same
13 arguments would be made.

14 So it doesn't seem to even be related to the country.
15 It's more about the process. Isn't that the kind of thing that
16 is reviewable?

17 MS. VUONG: No, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: All right. Tell me why.

19 MS. VUONG: Looking at the vacated decision from Ramos
20 v. Wolf, the Ninth Circuit talks about the merits of these
21 decisions, and those merits aren't reviewable. And here,
22 looking at registration, that's a discretionary function of the
23 statute. The statute gives the Secretary the discretion to
24 determine how registration takes place and when. And so
25 Plaintiffs are correct that these overlapping registrations can

1 take place, but that's within the discretion of the Secretary
2 on how that registration should take place.

3 So here, the Secretary herself has that knowledge and that
4 ability, that the statute gives her that ability to determine
5 whether or not, in her discretion, she thinks this is the way
6 that the registration should be taking place, and she uses that
7 to decide to vacate the decision extending TPS for Venezuela.

8 And if you're looking for the statutes that I'm
9 discussing, it's 1154(c)(1)(A), sub-Romanette iv, which says,
10 "To the extent and in a manner which the Secretary establishes,
11 the alien registers for temporary protected status under this
12 section during registration period."

13 And I believe there's another. The period of validity is
14 subsection (d)(2). The Attorney General may stagger the
15 period's ability of documentation and authorization. So both
16 of those statutes are discretionary in how the Secretary sets
17 up the registration periods.

18 THE COURT: So it's funny. It depends on who's
19 arguing what. To the extent that there's an argument that any
20 secretary, including Secretary Mayorkas, had the ability to
21 determine the manner of registration and to stagger periods,
22 etcetera, etcetera, there's an argument that that was committed
23 to his discretion in his initial. But then you're saying that
24 if vacatur revisiting is within the inherent power of the next
25 secretary, she also has the same power to exercise her

1 THE COURT: No. I understand the arguments, and you
2 have an organization here as represented, and it's provided by
3 declaration or substantiated by declaration that this is a
4 membership organization that is nationwide with members in all
5 states. Whether that's relevant or not, I don't know. We'll
6 figure that out. All right? All right.

7 Thank you, everyone.

8 THE COURTROOM DEPUTY: This hearing is concluded.
9 (The proceedings concluded at 12:18 P.M.)

10 ---o0o---

11 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

12 I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from
13 the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

14
15 DATE: Friday, March 21, 2025

16
17 *April Wood Brott*

18 _____
19 April Wood Brott, CSR No. 13782
20
21
22
23
24
25

Exhibit 13


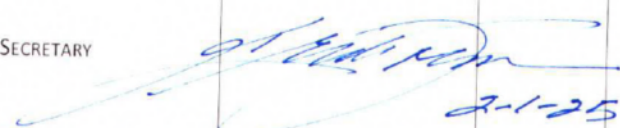
STATUS: _____

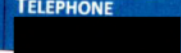
SUMMARY: TERMINATION OF THE OCTOBER 3, 2023 DESIGNATION OF VENEZUELA FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS.

ES 25-07083 TYPE OF ACTION: S1 INFORMATION

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY RECORD OF CLEARANCE AND APPROVAL	STORM #	SENIOR LIAISON OFFICER:
	25-07083	LAWRENCE INDYK
LEAD COMPONENT: FRONT OFFICE/OGC		

SUMMARY OF DOCUMENT: TERMINATION OF THE OCTOBER 3, 2023 DESIGNATION OF VENEZUELA FOR TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS.

OFFICE	SIGNATURE	DATE	COMMENTS
SENIOR ADVISOR	 JOSEPH MAZZARA	1/31	
SENIOR ADVISOR	✓		Cleared via e-mail.
SENIOR ADVISOR	✓		
SECRETARY	 2-1-25		

AFTER REVIEW RETURN TO: NANCY CLARK, EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT	TELEPHONE 
---	--

APPROVED FOR AUTOPEN: ____ YES ____ NO DATE AND INITIALS FOR AUTOPEN APPROVAL: _____ ☐ ☐

Exhibit 14

TABLE A

DURATION OF TPS EXTENSIONS (APRIL 2005-PRESENT)

Country	Date	Duration	Citation
Afghanistan	25-Sep-2023	18 months	88 Fed. Reg. 65728-65737 (Sept. 25, 2023)
Burma (Myanmar)	27-Sep-2022	18 months	87 Fed. Reg. 58515-58524 (Sept. 27, 2022)
Burma (Myanmar)	25-Mar-2024	18 months	89 Fed. Reg. 20682-20690 (Mar. 25, 2024)
Cameroon	10-Oct-2023	18 months	88 Fed. Reg. 69945-69953 (Oct. 10, 2023)
El Salvador	21-Aug-2007	18 months	72 Fed. Reg. 46649-46653 (Aug. 21, 2007)
El Salvador	1-Oct-2008	18 months	73 Fed. Reg. 57128-57133 (Oct. 1, 2008)
El Salvador	9-Jul-2010	18 months	75 Fed. Reg. 39556-39559 (July 9, 2010)
El Salvador	11-Jan-2012	18 months	77 Fed. Reg. 1710-1715 (Jan. 11, 2012)
El Salvador	30-May-2013	18 months	78 Fed. Reg. 32418-32424 (May 30, 2013)
El Salvador	7-Jan-2015	18 months	80 Fed. Reg. 893-899 (Jan. 7, 2015)
El Salvador	8-Jul-2016	18 months	81 Fed. Reg. 44645-44651 (July 8, 2016)
El Salvador	21-Jun-2023	18 months	88 Fed. Reg. 40282-40294 (June 21, 2023)
El Salvador	17-Jan-2025	18 months	90 Fed. Reg. 5953-5961 (Jan. 17, 2025)
Ethiopia	15-Apr-2024	18 months	89 Fed. Reg. 26172-26180 (Apr. 15, 2024)
Haiti	19-May-2011	18 months	76 Fed. Reg. 29000-29004 (May 19, 2011)
Haiti	1-Oct-2012	18 months	77 Fed. Reg. 59942-59943 (Oct. 1, 2012)
Haiti	3-Mar-2014	18 months	79 Fed. Reg. 11808-11814 (Mar. 3, 2014)
Haiti	25-Aug-2015	18 months	80 Fed. Reg. 51582-51588 (Aug. 25, 2015)
Haiti	26-Jan-2023	18 months	88 Fed. Reg. 5022-5032 (Jan. 26, 2023)
Haiti	1-Jul-2024	18 months	89 Fed. Reg. 54484-54496 (July 1, 2024)
Honduras	29-May-2007	18 months	72 Fed. Reg. 29529-29534 (May 29, 2007)
Honduras	1-Oct-2008	18 months	73 Fed. Reg. 57133-57138 (Oct. 1, 2008)
Honduras	5-May-2010	18 months	75 Fed. Reg. 24734-24737 (May 5, 2010)
Honduras	4-Nov-2011	18 months	76 Fed. Reg. 68488-68493 (Nov. 4, 2011)
Honduras	3-Apr-2013	18 months	78 Fed. Reg. 20123-20128 (Apr. 3, 2013)
Honduras	16-Oct-2014	18 months	79 Fed. Reg. 62170-62176 (Oct. 16, 2014)
Honduras	16-May-2016	18 months	81 Fed. Reg. 30331-30337 (May 16, 2016)
Honduras	21-Jun-2023	18 months	88 Fed. Reg. 40294-40304 (June 21, 2023)
Nepal	26-Oct-2016	18 months	81 Fed. Reg. 74470-74475 (Oct. 26, 2016)
Nepal	21-Jun-2023	18 months	88 Fed. Reg. 40317-40328 (June 21, 2023)
Nicaragua	29-May-2007	18 months	72 Fed. Reg. 29534-29539 (May 29, 2007)
Nicaragua	1-Oct-2008	18 months	73 Fed. Reg. 57138-57143 (Oct. 1, 2018)
Nicaragua	5-May-2010	18 months	75 Fed. Reg. 24737-24740 (May 5, 2010)
Nicaragua	4-Nov-2011	18 months	76 Fed. Reg. 68493-68498 (Nov. 4, 2011)
Nicaragua	3-Apr-2013	18 months	78 Fed. Reg. 20128-20133 (Apr. 3, 2013)
Nicaragua	16-Oct-2014	18 months	79 Fed. Reg. 62176-62182 (Oct. 16, 2014)
Nicaragua	16-May-2016	18 months	81 Fed. Reg. 30325-30331 (May 16, 2016)
Nicaragua	21-Jun-2023	18 months	88 Fed. Reg. 40294-40304 (June 21, 2023)
Somalia	27-Jul-2006	18 months	71 Fed. Reg. 42653-42658 (July 27, 2006)
Somalia	12-Mar-2008	18 months	73 Fed. Reg. 13245-13249 (Mar. 12, 2008)
Somalia	27-Jul-2009	18 months	74 Fed. Reg. 37043-37049 (July 27, 2009)

Somalia	2-Nov-2010	18 months	75 Fed. Reg. 67383-67386 (Nov. 2, 2010)
Somalia	1-May-2012	18 months	77 Fed. Reg. 25723-25728 (May 1, 2012)
Somalia	1-Nov-2013	18 months	78 Fed. Reg. 65690-65695 (Nov. 1, 2013)
Somalia	1-Jun-2015	18 months	80 Fed. Reg. 31056-31061 (June 1, 2015)
Somalia	17-Jan-2017	18 months	82 Fed. Reg. 4905-4911 (Jan. 17, 2017)
Somalia	27-Aug-2018	18 months	83 Fed. Reg. 43695-43700 (Aug. 27, 2018)
Somalia	11-Mar-2020	18 months	85 Fed. Reg. 14229-14235 (Mar. 11, 2020)
Somalia	22-Jul-2021	18 months	86 Fed. Reg. 38744-38753 (July 22, 2021)
Somalia	13-Mar-2023	18 months	88 Fed. Reg. 15434-15443 (Mar. 13, 2023)
Somalia	22-Jul-2024	18 months	89 Fed. Reg. 59135-59143 (July 22, 2024)
South Sudan	9-Jan-2013	18 months	78 Fed. Reg. 1866-1872 (Jan. 9, 2013)
South Sudan	2-Sep-2014	18 months	79 Fed. Reg. 52019-52027 (Sept. 2, 2014)
South Sudan	25-Jan-2016	18 months	81 Fed. Reg. 4051-4059 (Jan. 25, 2016)
South Sudan	21-Sep-2017	18 months	82 Fed. Reg. 44205-44211 (Sept. 21, 2017)
South Sudan	5-Apr-2019	18 months	84 Fed. Reg. 13688-13694 (Apr. 5, 2019)
South Sudan	2-Nov-2020	18 months	85 Fed. Reg. 69344-69351 (Nov. 2, 2020)
South Sudan	3-Mar-2022	18 months	87 Fed. Reg. 12190-12201 (Mar. 3, 2022)
South Sudan	21-Aug-2023	18 months	88 Fed. Reg. 56864-56872 (Aug. 21, 2023)
Sudan	2-Sep-2005	18 months	70 Fed. Reg. 52429-52433 (Sept. 2, 2005)
Sudan	8-Mar-2007	18 months	72 Fed. Reg. 10541-10546 (Mar. 8, 2007)
Sudan	14-Aug-2008	18 months	73 Fed. Reg. 47606-47611 (Aug. 14, 2008)
Sudan	31-Dec-2009	18 months	74 Fed. Reg. 69355-69361 (Dec. 31, 2009)
Sudan	13-Oct-2011	18 months	76 Fed. Reg. 63635-63640 (Oct. 13, 2011)
Sudan	9-Jan-2013	18 months	78 Fed. Reg. 1872-1878 (Jan. 9, 2013)
Sudan	2-Sep-2014	18 months	79 Fed. Reg. 52027-52033 (Sept. 2, 2014)
Sudan	25-Jan-2016	18 months	81 Fed. Reg. 4045-4051 (Jan. 25, 2016)
Sudan	21-Aug-2023	18 months	88 Fed. Reg. 56864-56872 (Aug. 21, 2023)
Sudan	17-Jan-2025	18 months	90 Fed. Reg. 5944-5953 (Jan. 17, 2025)
Syria	17-Jun-2013	18 months	78 Fed. Reg. 36223-36229 (June 17, 2013)
Syria	5-Jan-2015	18 months	80 Fed. Reg. 245-252 (Jan. 5, 2015)
Syria	1-Aug-2016	18 months	81 Fed. Reg. 50533-50541 (Aug. 1, 2016)
Syria	5-Mar-2018	18 months	83 Fed. Reg. 9329-9336 (Mar. 5, 2018)
Syria	23-Sep-2019	18 months	84 Fed. Reg. 49751-49757 (Sept. 23, 2019)
Syria	19-Mar-2021	18 months	86 Fed. Reg. 14946-14952 (Mar. 19, 2021)
Syria	1-Aug-2022	18 months	87 Fed. Reg. 46982-46991 (Aug. 1, 2022)
Syria	29-Jan-2024	18 months	89 Fed. Reg. 5562-5571 (Jan. 29, 2024)
Ukraine	21-Aug-2023	18 months	88 Fed. Reg. 56872-56880 (Aug. 21, 2023)
Ukraine	17-Jan-2025	18 months	90 Fed. Reg. 5936-5944 (Jan. 17, 2025)
Venezuela	8-Sep-2022	18 months	87 Fed. Reg. 55024-55032 (Sept. 8, 2022)
Venezuela	3-Oct-2023	18 months	88 Fed. Reg. 68130-68139 (Oct. 3, 2023)
Venezuela	17-Jan-2025	18 months	90 Fed. Reg. 5961-5972 (Jan. 17, 2025)
Yemen	4-Jan-2017	18 months	82 Fed. Reg. 859-866 (Jan. 4, 2017)
Yemen	14-Aug-2018	18 months	83 Fed. Reg. 40307-40313 (Aug. 14, 2018)
Yemen	2-Mar-2020	18 months	85 Fed. Reg. 12313-12319 (Mar. 2, 2020)

Yemen	9-Jul-2021	18 months	86 Fed. Reg. 36295-36302 (July 9, 2021)
Yemen	3-Jan-2023	18 months	88 Fed. Reg. 94-103 (Jan. 3, 2023)
Yemen	10-Jul-2024	18 months	89 Fed. Reg. 56765-56773 (July 10, 2024)
Burundi	2-Sep-2005	12 months	70 Fed. Reg. 52425-52429 (Sept. 2, 2005)
Burundi	14-Sep-2006	12 months	71 Fed. Reg. 54300-54304 (Sept. 14, 2006)
El Salvador	15-Jun-2006	12 months	71 Fed. Reg. 34637-34641 (June 15, 2006)
Honduras	31-Mar-2006	12 months	71 Fed. Reg. 16328-16333 (Mar. 31, 2006)
Liberia	16-Aug-2005	12 months	70 Fed. Reg. 48176-48179 (Aug. 16, 2005)
Nicaragua	31-Mar-2006	12 months	71 Fed. Reg. 16333-16338 (Mar. 31, 2006)
Somalia	29-Jul-2005	12 months	70 Fed. Reg. 43895-43899 (July 29, 2005)
Guinea	22-Mar-2016	6 months	81 Fed. Reg. 15339-15345 (Mar. 22, 2016)
Haiti	24-May-2017	6 months	82 Fed. Reg. 23820-23837 (May 24, 2024)
Honduras	15-Dec-2017	6 months	82 Fed. Reg. 59630-59636 (Dec. 15, 2017)
Liberia	22-Mar-2016	6 months	81 Fed. Reg. 15328-15334 (Mar. 22, 2016)
Sierra Leone	22-Mar-2016	6 months	81 Fed. Reg. 15334-15339 (Mar. 22, 2016)

Exhibit 15



U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Secretary Noem Rescinds Previous Administration's Extension of Haiti's Temporary Protected Status

"President Trump and I are returning TPS to its original status: temporary." - Secretary Noem

WASHINGTON – Today, Secretary Noem vacated a decision by the previous administration to extend Haiti's Temporary Protected Status (TPS) by 18 months. As part of this move, Haiti's TPS will end on August 3, 2025, unless extended. This is part of President Trump's promise to rescind policies that were magnets for illegal immigration and inconsistent with the law.

TPS is a type of immigration status available to nationals of certain designated countries that allows aliens, **even if they entered the country illegally**, the ability to reside **temporarily** in the U.S. The Secretary of Homeland Security is authorized to designate a foreign country for TPS if there is an ongoing armed conflict, an environmental disaster, or extraordinary and temporary conditions.

For decades the TPS system has been exploited and abused. For example, Haiti has been designated for TPS since 2010. The data shows each extension of the country's TPS designation allowed more Haitian nationals, even those who entered the U.S. illegally, to qualify for legal protected status.

In May of 2011, DHS estimated that **57,000** Haitians were eligible to register for TPS. In August 2021, DHS estimated that **155,000** Haitians were eligible under the new designation. And by July 2024, the estimate skyrocketed to **520,694**.

A statement from a DHS spokeswoman:

"Biden and Mayorkas attempted to tie the hands of the Trump administration by extending Haiti's Temporary Protected Status by 18 months—far longer than justified or necessary.

"We are returning integrity to the TPS system, which has been abused and exploited by illegal aliens for decades. President Trump and Secretary Noem are returning TPS to its original status: temporary."

Last month, Secretary Noem similarly rescinded the previous administration's Venezuela TPS extension.

Topics

[BORDER SECURITY \(/TOPICS/BORDER-SECURITY\)](#) [SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY \(/TOPICS/SECRETARY-HOMELAND-SECURITY\)](#)
[IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT \(/TOPICS/IMMIGRATION-AND-CUSTOMS-ENFORCEMENT\)](#)

Keywords

[BORDER SECURITY \(/KEYWORDS/BORDER-SECURITY\)](#) [IMMIGRATION \(/KEYWORDS/IMMIGRATION\)](#) [SECRETARY KRISTI NOEM \(/KEYWORDS/SECRETARY-KRISTI-NOEM\)](#)

Exhibit 16



Report to Congressional Requesters

April 2020

TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS

Steps Taken to Inform and Communicate Secretary of Homeland Security's Decisions

GAO Highlights

Highlights of [GAO-20-134](#), a report to congressional requesters

Why GAO Did This Study

The INA includes provisions for eligible foreign nationals residing in the United States to obtain temporary humanitarian protection from removal, as well as work authorization, when their country of origin is designated for TPS. Since 1990, nationals of 22 countries have received TPS. The Secretary of Homeland Security may designate a country for TPS after consulting with other agencies and determining that the country meets statutory criteria related to armed conflict, environmental disaster, or extraordinary or temporary conditions that prevent its nationals from returning in safety. The Secretary may designate a country for TPS for periods of 6 to 18 months and can extend a TPS designation if deemed appropriate.

GAO was asked to review the TPS decision process. This report, among other things, (1) describes the approach DHS takes to inform the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS reviews and (2) examines DHS's communication to the public regarding TPS decisions and related information, including employment authorization. GAO reviewed documentation and data related to TPS decisions, including a nongeneralizable sample of 26 decisions for eight countries in fiscal years 2014 through 2018. GAO selected the countries to reflect various types of TPS decisions, among other factors. GAO also interviewed agency officials.

What GAO Recommends

GAO recommends USCIS consistently identify in published guidance the mechanisms used to communicate automatic extensions of TPS employment authorization documents. DHS concurred with GAO's recommendation.

View [GAO-20-134](#). For more information, contact Chelsa Gurkin at (202) 512-2964 or GurkinC@gao.gov, or Rebecca Gambler at (202) 512-6912 or GamblerR@gao.gov.

April 2020

TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS

Steps Taken to Inform and Communicate Secretary of Homeland Security's Decisions

What GAO Found

The Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) reviews of countries for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) include three main steps, according to DHS and other agencies' documents and officials. First, the Secretary of Homeland Security may initiate a review of a country for TPS designation in response to various triggering factors, such as a request from a foreign government, on the basis of one or more statutory conditions. The Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) requires subsequent reviews after an initial designation. Second, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)—which manages and coordinates the TPS review process for DHS—and the Department of State (State) compile country conditions reports and recommendations to inform the Secretary's decision. Although the INA does not prescribe the other agencies that must be consulted for a TPS review, State generally has a role in providing input for the Secretary of Homeland Security's consideration. GAO found DHS collected country conditions reports and recommendations from USCIS and State for all eight of the countries GAO selected for its review. Other DHS components and non-DHS entities may also provide information. Third, under the INA, the Secretary of Homeland Security exercises discretion in deciding whether to initially designate a country for TPS. For an existing designation, the Secretary determines whether country conditions warrant an extension or termination of TPS. DHS provides official notice of decisions in the Federal Register.

Three Primary Steps in the Secretary of Homeland Security's Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Reviews



Source: GAO analysis of documentary and testimonial information from the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State. | GAO-20-134

DHS has communicated TPS decisions to the public through required Federal Register notices as well as other mechanisms. However, DHS has not provided consistent guidance regarding mechanisms it uses to communicate automatic extensions of TPS employment authorization documents. USCIS officials stated that the agency has typically communicated these extensions of documents for TPS beneficiaries through Federal Register notices. However, for five recent automatic extensions, USCIS instead mailed individual notifications to thousands of beneficiaries. USCIS guidance on its website identifies the individual notifications as a mechanism for communicating automatic extensions, but an employers' handbook and related guidance do not. As a result, some employers reportedly terminated TPS beneficiaries' employment because the employers did not understand or accept the notifications as proof of employment authorization. Consistent guidance about the mechanisms USCIS uses could help reduce the risk that TPS beneficiaries will lose their jobs because of confusion about their authorization to work in the United States.

Contents

Letter		1
	Background	4
	Foreign Nationals from 22 Countries Have Received TPS, Totaling About 430,000 Beneficiaries in Fiscal Years 2000-2018	9
	DHS's Approach to Inform the Secretary's TPS Reviews Includes Three Primary Steps	15
	DHS Has Communicated TPS Decisions through Required Federal Register Notices but Provided Inconsistent Guidance on Employment Authorizations	29
	Conclusions	39
	Recommendation for Executive Action	40
	Agency Comments	40
Appendix I	Objectives, Scope, and Methodology	43
Appendix II	Numbers and Characteristics of Temporary Protected Status Beneficiaries, Fiscal Years 2000-2018	49
Appendix III	Comments from Department of Homeland Security	54
Appendix IV	Comments from U.S. Agency for International Development	57
Appendix V	GAO Contacts and Staff Acknowledgments	58
Tables		
	Table 1: Key Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Department of State (State) Components Involved in Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Decision Process	8
	Table 2: Department of Homeland Security's Public Communication of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Extension for Honduras in 2016	31
	Table 3: Judgmental Sample of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Decisions	46

Table 4: Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Beneficiaries, by Country of Citizenship, Fiscal Years 2000-2018	50
---	----

Figures

Figure 1: Example of Employment Authorization Document Issued by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services	8
Figure 2: Effective Dates, Designation Bases, and Types of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Decisions, Fiscal Years 1990-2019	11
Figure 3: Temporary Protected Status Beneficiaries, by Country of Citizenship, Fiscal Year 2018	15
Figure 4: Three Primary Steps in Secretary of Homeland Security's Review for Initial or Existing Designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS)	16
Figure 5: Initiation of Secretary of Homeland Security's Review for Initial or Existing Designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS)	17
Figure 6: Information Collected for the Secretary of Homeland Security's Review for Initial or Existing Designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS)	20
Figure 7: Secretary of Homeland Security's Decision on Temporary Protected Status (TPS)	28
Figure 8: Numbers of Federal Register Notices of Extensions, Terminations, or Redesignations of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Designations Published before and after End Dates of Previous Designation Periods, Fiscal Years 1990-2019	33
Figure 9: Age and Gender of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Beneficiaries, Fiscal Year 2018	51
Figure 10: Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Beneficiaries, by State of Residency, Fiscal Year 2018	52

Abbreviations

DHS	Department of Homeland Security
INA	Immigration and Nationality Act
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
PRM	Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration
RAIO	Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate
State	Department of State
TPS	Temporary Protected Status
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
USCIS	U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

This is a work of the U.S. government and is not subject to copyright protection in the United States. The published product may be reproduced and distributed in its entirety without further permission from GAO. However, because this work may contain copyrighted images or other material, permission from the copyright holder may be necessary if you wish to reproduce this material separately.



U.S. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

441 G St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20548

April 3, 2020

Congressional Requesters

Temporary Protected Status (TPS) is a form of humanitarian protection that provides a temporary benefit to eligible foreign nationals from designated countries who are residing in the United States. TPS protects beneficiaries from removal and permits work authorization.¹ Countries may be designated for TPS on the basis of statutory criteria related to armed conflict, such as civil war; an environmental disaster, such as an earthquake or hurricane; or extraordinary and temporary conditions in the country that prevent nationals from returning in safety.² Under the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA),³ the Secretary of Homeland

¹Pub. L. No. 82-414, title II, ch. 5, § 244, 66 Stat. 163 (1952), as added by the Immigration Act of 1990, Pub. L. No. 101-649, title III, § 302(a), 104 Stat. 4978, 5030-5036 (classified, as amended by the Immigration Act of 1990 and subsequent acts, at 8 U.S.C. § 1254a).

²Under 8 U.S.C. § 1254a, the Secretary of Homeland Security may designate a country (or a part of a country) for TPS, after consultation with appropriate agencies of the government, when the Secretary finds that conditions in a country meet certain statutory criteria related to ongoing armed conflict, an environmental disaster, or extraordinary and temporary conditions that prevent nationals from returning in safety. Specifically, regarding armed conflict, the Secretary may designate a country for TPS if the Secretary finds that there is an ongoing armed conflict within the foreign country and that, because of the conflict, requiring the return of foreign nationals to that country would pose a serious threat to their personal safety. Regarding environmental disaster, the Secretary may designate a country for TPS if the Secretary finds that there has been an earthquake, flood, drought, epidemic, or other environmental disaster in the foreign country resulting in a substantial, but temporary, disruption in living conditions; the foreign country is temporarily unable to adequately handle the return of foreign nationals to the country; and the foreign country has officially requested TPS designation. Regarding extraordinary and temporary conditions, the Secretary may designate a country for TPS if the Secretary finds that there are extraordinary and temporary conditions in the foreign country that prevent foreign nationals from returning to the country safely, unless the Secretary finds that permitting foreign nationals to remain temporarily in the United States is contrary to the national interests of the United States.

³Unless specified otherwise, all references to the INA in this report refer to section 244 of the act.

Security,⁴ after consultation with other agencies, may grant TPS to eligible foreign nationals in the United States from foreign countries that the Secretary has designated for TPS.⁵ Although the INA does not prescribe the other agencies that must be consulted, the Department of State (State) generally has a role in providing input for the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS reviews.⁶

Since TPS was established in 1990, 22 countries have received TPS designations.⁷ In fiscal year 2018, more than 400,000 TPS beneficiaries were living in the United States, according to data from DHS's U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). These beneficiaries were from 10 countries—El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen—with the majority from El Salvador, Honduras, and Haiti.⁸ Since the beginning of fiscal year 2018, the Secretary of Homeland Security has announced decisions to terminate TPS for six countries—El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, and Sudan; these decisions are currently the subject of litigation.

You asked us to review the decision-making process for TPS designations. This report (1) describes TPS determinations and numbers

⁴The authority to designate countries for TPS was transferred from the Attorney General to the Secretary of Homeland Security in 2003, after the Department of Justice's Immigration and Naturalization Service was abolished and its immigration services and enforcement functions were transferred to the Department of Homeland Security pursuant to the Homeland Security Act of 2002. Pub. L. No. 107-296, title I & IV, §§ 101, 102, 456, 471, 478, 116 Stat. 2135, 2142, 2143-44, 2200-01, 2205, 2211-12 (2002) (classified, as amended, at 6 U.S.C. §§ 111, 112, 275, 291, 298). See also 8 U.S.C. § 1103(a) (powers and duties of the Secretary of Homeland Security).

⁵According to 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(a)(1), the Secretary of Homeland Security may grant TPS to nationals of a foreign state designated for TPS by the Secretary or to stateless individuals whose last habitual residence was in a foreign state designated for TPS.

⁶The Secretary of Homeland Security is required to consult with appropriate agencies of the government before making a designation according to 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(1), and prior to periodic reviews of existing designations, according to 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(3). The statute does not prescribe the other agencies that must be consulted.

⁷Deferred Enforcement Departure is another example of discretionary humanitarian protection from removal that allows eligible foreign nationals from designated countries to remain in the United States on a temporary basis. Deferred Enforcement Departure is not within the scope of this review.

⁸TPS designations for the remaining 12 countries had been terminated as of the beginning of fiscal year 2018.

of beneficiaries since TPS was established; (2) describes the approach that DHS, in consultation with State and other relevant agencies, uses to inform the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS reviews; and (3) examines DHS's public communication regarding TPS decisions and related information, including work authorization.

To describe TPS determinations and numbers of beneficiaries since TPS was established, we reviewed information and data in Federal Register notices for TPS designations for fiscal years 1990 through 2019 and analyzed USCIS data on numbers of TPS beneficiaries for fiscal years 1990 through 2018.⁹ To assess the reliability of the USCIS data, we reviewed related documentation and interviewed USCIS officials to identify any missing or erroneous data and resolve any discrepancies. We determined that the data for fiscal years 2000 through 2018 were sufficiently reliable to provide general information about the size and characteristics of TPS beneficiaries.

To describe the approach that DHS uses to inform TPS reviews, we reviewed provisions in the INA related to TPS as well as DHS and State documentation related to the processes they have used since fiscal year 2014 to collect information for these reviews. This documentation included information that DHS and State provided for a judgmental, nongeneralizable sample of eight countries (El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, Syria, and Yemen), representing 26 TPS decisions in fiscal years 2014 through 2018.¹⁰ We selected this sample to represent a range of decision types and designation reasons, among other factors. While this sample cannot be generalized to the countries or decisions we did not review, it provided information about the approach DHS uses for TPS reviews. Additionally, we reviewed examples of information that other agencies—for example, the Department of Defense, the Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the U.S. Agency for International Development—and entities such as members of Congress or nongovernmental organizations

⁹Fiscal year 1990 is the year when TPS was established under the INA, and fiscal year 2018 is the most recent year for which data on TPS beneficiaries were available.

¹⁰We selected a judgmental, nongeneralizable sample of eight countries with initial or existing TPS designations in fiscal years 2014 through 2018, representing 26 of a total of 42 TPS decisions for eight of 13 countries in that period, to incorporate a range of decision types and reasons in recent years, among other factors. Because of ongoing litigation related to TPS, certain information had been redacted from some of the documentation that we reviewed. See appendix I for additional details of our objectives, scope, and methodology.

provided to DHS to inform TPS reviews. We also interviewed officials from DHS, State, the Department of Defense, the Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the U.S. Agency for International Development.

To examine DHS's public communication regarding TPS decisions and related information, we reviewed information that DHS published in Federal Register notices from November 29, 1990, through October 1, 2019. We also examined DHS guidance published on its website and DHS procedures as of fiscal year 2019 for communicating TPS work authorization. We compared DHS's guidance and procedures with relevant federal internal control standards.¹¹ Additionally, we reviewed information from the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division's website related to automatic extensions of employment authorization documents for TPS beneficiaries.¹² We also interviewed DHS officials.

We conducted this performance audit from September 2018 to March 2020 in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that our evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

Background

Immigration and Nationality Act Provisions for Temporary Protected Status

The INA provides for the Secretary of Homeland Security, after consultation with other agencies, to designate a foreign country for TPS if the conditions in that country fall into one or more of three statutory categories. These categories are generally described as consisting of (1) ongoing armed conflict, (2) environmental disaster, and (3) extraordinary

¹¹GAO, *Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government*, [GAO-14-704G](#) (Washington, D.C.: September 2014).

¹²Department of Justice Civil Rights Division, "Telephone Interventions," accessed June 27, 2019, <https://www.justice.gov/crt/telephone-interventions-2>.

and temporary conditions.¹³ The Secretary may designate a country for a period of at least 6 months but no more than 18 months.

At least 60 days before the end of the designation period, the Secretary is required, after consulting with other appropriate agencies, to undertake a review of the conditions in the foreign country for which a designation is in effect and to determine whether the conditions for such designation continue to be met. The Secretary must subsequently take one of the following actions:

- Extend the country's TPS designation for a period of 6, 12, or 18 months, if the Secretary determines that country conditions warrant an extension of TPS.¹⁴ This provides TPS beneficiaries with an extended period of protection from removal.
- Terminate the country's TPS designation, if the Secretary determines that the country no longer meets the statutory criteria. This results in an expiration of the period of protection for foreign nationals who were granted TPS under a country's designation.¹⁵

In addition, the Secretary may exercise his or her discretion, on the basis of this review, to redesignate the country for TPS.¹⁶ With a redesignation, the Secretary allows eligible nationals from the designated foreign country who have arrived in the United States since the initial designation, or another date established by the Secretary, to apply for TPS.

¹³See 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b), which provides that the Secretary of Homeland Security may designate a country for TPS if nationals are unable to return safely to the country because of armed conflict or extraordinary and temporary conditions or if an environmental disaster in the country temporarily prevents a country from adequately handling the return of its nationals. In addition, 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(1)(B)(3) requires that a designation based on environmental disaster must be officially requested by a foreign state. According to USCIS officials, such a request is generally submitted in writing and may be provided to DHS through State. USCIS officials stated that this request is required only for an initial designation based on environmental disaster and that official requests from the foreign government are not required for any subsequent TPS extensions.

¹⁴See 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(3)(C). Under this section of the INA, a designation period is automatically extended for 6 months if the Secretary does not make a determination to terminate a country's TPS designation before the end date of the current designation.

¹⁵See 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(3)(B).

¹⁶See 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b). According to USCIS officials, from 1997 through 2017, DHS used the term "redesignate" for instances in which the Secretary of Homeland Security newly designated a country for TPS after an initial designation or extension period. Beginning in 2018, DHS began using the term "newly designate" for these decisions.

TPS provides temporary humanitarian protection to eligible foreign nationals in the United States who, for various reasons, may not have otherwise lawful status and therefore, in the absence of TPS, would be subject to enforcement and removal under the INA. Foreign nationals may be present in the United States without valid status and potentially removable for various reasons, such as having entered without inspection and admission at a port of entry or having remained in the country beyond the expiration of previous temporary status (e.g., tourist, foreign student). Eligible foreign nationals may also seek TPS when they currently have another lawful status, according to USCIS officials. USCIS officials noted that this may occur, for example, when a foreign national has a temporary nonimmigrant status nearing its end date when TPS is designated for his or her country and applies for TPS before the existing status expires.

Under the INA, applicants for TPS must apply during the registration period established by the Secretary of Homeland Security for a particular country designation. To be eligible for TPS, an applicant from a designated country must have been physically present in the United States continuously since the most recent designation's effective date and must have resided in the United States continuously since the date established by the Secretary of Homeland Security.¹⁷ The INA also specifies that an individual is ineligible for TPS if he or she has been convicted of any felony or of two or more misdemeanors committed in the United States; if any of the statutory bars to asylum apply, such as involvement in persecution of others; or if he or she is reasonably regarded as a danger to the security of the United States, among other bases.¹⁸

¹⁷See 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(c). In accordance with the statute, applicants must have been continuously physically present since the effective date of the most recent TPS designation of their country of origin. The Secretary of Homeland Security sets the continuous physical presence date as either the publication date of the Federal Register notice or such later date as the Secretary determines. In addition, applicants must have been living, or continuously residing, in the United States as of the date prescribed by the Secretary of Homeland Security. For example, Yemen's initial TPS designation had an effective date and continuous physical presence date of September 3, 2015; the Secretary of Homeland Security prescribed the same date for continuous residence. See 80 Fed. Reg. 53319 (Sept. 3, 2015). For Yemen's 2017 redesignation, with an effective date and continuous physical presence date of March 4, 2017, the Secretary of Homeland Security prescribed January 4, 2017, as the continuous residence date. See 82 Fed. Reg. 859 (Jan. 4, 2017).

¹⁸See 8 U.S.C. §1254a(c)(2).

In addition to protecting beneficiaries from removal, TPS authorizes them to work in the United States for the designation period.¹⁹ To receive evidence of work authorization, TPS beneficiaries generally apply to USCIS for an employment authorization document, Form I-766. USCIS provides this document as a plastic card that shows proof of the individual's authorization to work in the United States and includes a photograph of the individual.²⁰ Although USCIS does not require beneficiaries to apply for an employment authorization document, according to USCIS officials, beneficiaries typically apply to obtain these cards as evidence of their authorization to work in the United States. Figure 1 shows an example of an employment authorization document issued by USCIS.

¹⁹TPS allows beneficiaries to work in the United States and protects them from removal for the designation period, provided that they continue to meet TPS eligibility criteria and are not otherwise subject to removal proceedings or withdrawal of their status. See INA § 244(c)(3)(A-B); 8 C.F.R. § 244.14 regarding withdrawal of TPS.

²⁰A TPS beneficiary continues to be authorized to work for as long as he or she has TPS. See INA § 244(a)(1)(B). TPS beneficiaries, like all employees, must provide a document or combination of documents to their employers evidencing their identity and employment authorization from a list of acceptable documents. An employment authorization document (Form I-766) is one of the acceptable documents that may be used to establish both identity and authorization to work in the United States. However, TPS beneficiaries may present any document from the list of acceptable documents that are available to demonstrate identity and eligibility to work in the United States. To apply for an employment authorization document, TPS beneficiaries must submit a completed Form I-765, "Application for Employment Authorization" (OMB Control No. 1615-0040), to USCIS, which has jurisdiction over the form, within the current TPS designation period. According to USCIS officials, applicants do not have to submit Form I-765 concurrently with an application to reregister for TPS.

Figure 1: Example of Employment Authorization Document Issued by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services



Source: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. | GAO-20-134

Key DHS and State Components That May Be Involved in TPS Reviews

Several key DHS and State components may be involved in the TPS decision process, as table 1 shows. Additionally, other DHS offices and components, as well as agencies such as the Department of Defense or U.S. Agency for International Development, may provide information about country conditions to help inform the Secretary of Homeland Security's decisions.

Table 1: Key Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Department of State (State) Components Involved in Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Decision Process

Agency	Component or official	Role
DHS	Secretary of Homeland Security	Responsible for determining whether to initially designate, extend, terminate, or redesignate TPS for a country.
	U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services	Administers the United States' immigration services function by adjudicating requests for immigration benefits, including TPS.
State ^a	Secretary of State	Provides input for the Secretary of Homeland Security's consideration for TPS decisions.
	Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration	Responsible for humanitarian policy and diplomacy, and also provides humanitarian assistance. Has a role in supporting efforts to protect and assist refugees and vulnerable migrants around the world.
	Regional bureaus ^b	Serve as the liaison between the overseas posts and State's headquarters bureaus and offices.
	Overseas posts ^c	Typically provide information about country conditions for a TPS review.

Source: GAO analysis of DHS and State documentary and testimonial information. | GAO-20-134

^aThe Secretary of Homeland Security is required to consult with appropriate agencies of the government before making a TPS designation, according to 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(1), and prior to periodic reviews of existing designations, according to 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(3). Although the INA does not prescribe the other agencies that must be consulted, State generally has a role in providing input for the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS reviews.

^bState has six regional bureaus that support the department's mission in specific global regions: the Bureau of African Affairs, the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, the Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, and the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs.

^cOverseas posts include U.S. embassies and other posts in many countries.

Foreign Nationals from 22 Countries Have Received TPS, Totaling About 430,000 Beneficiaries in Fiscal Years 2000- 2018

TPS Has Been Granted to Foreign Nationals from 22 Countries since It Was Established

Since TPS was established in 1990, foreign nationals in the United States from 22 countries²¹ have been granted TPS.²² Our review of Federal Register notices published in fiscal years 1990 through 2019 found varying bases for the 22 countries' TPS designations. We also found that designations for 20 of these countries were subsequently extended or the countries were redesignated one or more times.²³ Somalia, first designated for TPS in September 1991, had the longest overall designation period since TPS was established. As of the end of fiscal

²¹The 22 countries designated for TPS in fiscal years 1990 through 2019 included El Salvador, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Somalia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Rwanda, Montserrat, Burundi, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Kosovo, Honduras, Nicaragua, Guinea-Bissau, Angola, Haiti, South Sudan, Syria, Guinea, Nepal, and Yemen. When Kosovo was designated for TPS in 1998, it was a province of Serbia. In February 2008, the Kosovo Parliament declared Kosovo independent and the United States recognized Kosovo as an independent state.

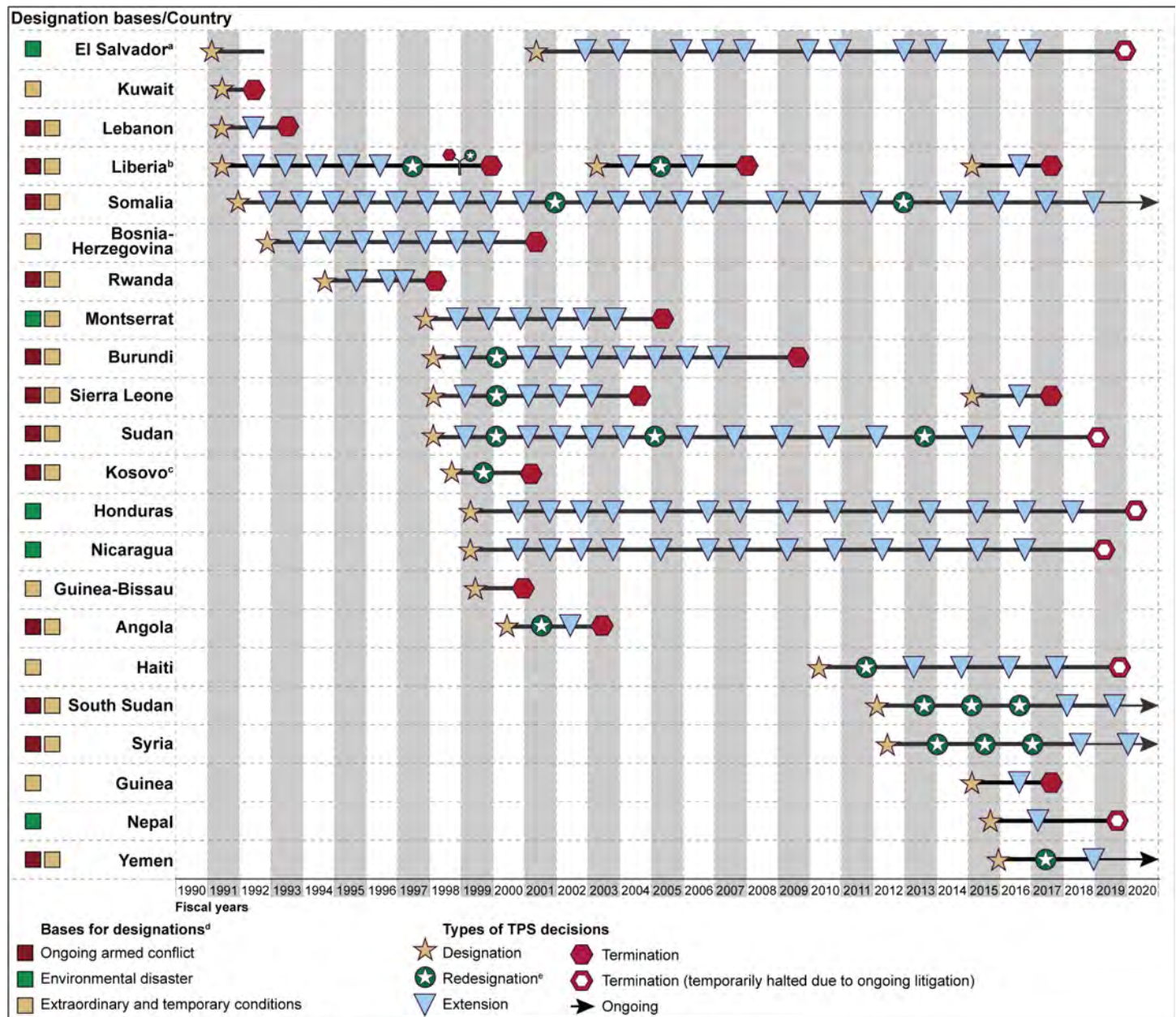
²²The authority to designate countries for TPS was transferred from the Attorney General to the Secretary of Homeland Security in 2003, after the Department of Justice's Immigration and Naturalization Service was abolished and its immigration services and enforcement functions were transferred to DHS pursuant to the Homeland Security Act of 2002. Pub. L. No. 107-296, title I & IV, §§ 101, 102, 456, 471, 478, 116 Stat. 2135, 2142, 2143-44, 2200-01, 2205, 2211-12 (2002) (classified, as amended, at 6 U.S.C. §§ 111, 112, 275, 291, 298). See also 8 U.S.C. § 1103(a) (powers and duties of the Secretary of Homeland Security).

²³A redesignation of TPS may allow eligible nationals from the designated foreign country who have arrived in the United States since the date of the initial designation to apply for TPS, whereas an extension allows existing beneficiaries to retain TPS as long as they continue to meet eligibility requirements.

year 2019, Somalia's designation had been extended 21 times and the country had been redesignated twice;²⁴ its most recent extension was set to expire in March 2020. Designations for only two countries were terminated without any extensions or redesignations—Kuwait, designated in 1991, and Guinea-Bissau, designated in 1999. Figure 2 shows all effective dates of TPS designations and subsequent decisions, including extensions, terminations, and redesignations, as well as the bases for the designations for each of the 22 countries in fiscal years 1990 through 2019.

²⁴Somalia's redesignations were coupled with simultaneous extensions of TPS.

Figure 2: Effective Dates, Designation Bases, and Types of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Decisions, Fiscal Years 1990-2019



Source: GAO analysis of information provided in Department of Homeland Security Federal Register notices. | GAO-20-134

^aEl Salvador was first designated for TPS in the Immigration Act of 1990. When the original 18-month designation expired in 1992, it was not extended and the country was not redesignated.

^bOne redesignation of Liberia followed a prior termination of the previous designation (1998), and another redesignation of the country was coupled with a simultaneous termination of the previous

designation (2004). Section 7611 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 allows Liberian nationals who meet all applicable eligibility criteria—including continuous presence in the United States from November 20, 2014, until the date an application is timely filed—and their qualifying family members to become lawful permanent residents (i.e., Green Card holders). See Pub. L. No. 116-92, div. F, title LXXVI, subtitle B, § 7611, 133 Stat. 1198 (2019).

^cWhen Kosovo was designated for TPS in 1998, it was a province of Serbia. In February 2008, the Kosovo Parliament declared Kosovo independent and the United States recognized Kosovo as an independent state.

^dThe listed designation bases represent statutorily defined categories of conditions on which a TPS designation—either an initial designation or any subsequent redesignation—may be based. When more than one designation basis is shown for a country, the bases shown do not distinguish between the category for the initial designation and categories that were added or removed at the time of any redesignations or subsequent designations.

^eAccording to USCIS officials, from 1997 through 2017, “redesignation” was used to describe the Secretary of Homeland Security’s designation of a country for TPS after an initial designation or extension period. Officials stated that in 2018, the Department of Homeland Security began using the term “newly designate” for these decisions. From fiscal year 1990, when TPS was established, through fiscal year 2019, all TPS redesignations except two for Liberia were coupled with a simultaneous extension of TPS. Extensions or terminations that occurred with a redesignation are not marked as such in the graphic.

As figure 2 shows, 26 TPS designations occurred in fiscal years 1990 through 2019, and 22 designations were extended at least once. As of September 30, 2019, the designations for all but four countries had been terminated and the termination of six countries’ designations since fiscal year 2018 had been temporarily halted because of ongoing litigation. Redesignations occurred 20 times.²⁵

- **Designations.** Of the 26 TPS designations, three were for one country, Liberia, and four were for two countries, El Salvador and Sierra Leone, that were each designated twice.
- **Extensions.** The majority of TPS designations (17 of 26 designations) were extended up to eight times. Designations for five countries—El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Somalia, and Sudan—were extended more than 10 times each. Three of the 22 countries’ designations were not extended before termination.
- **Terminations.** The TPS designations for all countries except Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, and Yemen had been terminated as of September 30, 2019. The termination of six countries’ designations

²⁵Since fiscal year 1990, when TPS was established, through fiscal year 2019, all redesignations except two for Liberia were coupled with a simultaneous extension of TPS. One redesignation for Liberia followed a prior termination of the previous designation, and another redesignation for Liberia was coupled with a simultaneous termination of the previous designation. For the purposes of our review, in counting any extensions or terminations for each country, we did not include an extension or termination that occurred simultaneously with a redesignation.

since fiscal year 2018 had been temporarily halted because of ongoing litigation. Several lawsuits had been filed regarding the Secretary of Homeland Security's decisions to terminate TPS for El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, and Sudan.²⁶ In October 2018, a U.S. district judge in California issued a preliminary injunction for one of the lawsuits, temporarily blocking DHS from enforcing the Secretary's TPS termination decisions for El Salvador, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Sudan. The U.S. government filed an appeal in response to the preliminary injunction. According to USCIS officials, DHS has regularly published notices of its continued compliance with the court's injunction and has stated that it will continue to publish such notices pending resolution of the case. In April 2019, a district court judge in New York issued a second preliminary injunction covering Haiti, which the U.S. government appealed in June 2019. Additionally, under an agreement to stay the proceedings in response to a lawsuit filed in California in February 2019, the government stipulated that it would temporarily halt terminations for Honduras and Nepal until the appeal of the October 2018 injunction had been resolved.

- **Redesignations.** Of the 20 TPS redesignations, six were for countries that were redesignated once, two were for one country that was redesignated twice, and twelve were for four countries that each were redesignated thrice—the largest number of TPS redesignations.²⁷

About 430,000 Eligible Foreign Nationals Received TPS in Fiscal Years 2000-2018

USCIS data show that applications for TPS were approved for a total of 431,848 foreign nationals in fiscal years 2000 through 2018 and that the number of TPS beneficiaries each year²⁸ grew from about 70,000 in fiscal

²⁶We previously reported on issues related to the reintegration of migrants in Central America, including potential returnees affected by recent terminations of TPS designations for El Salvador and Honduras. See GAO, *Central America: USAID Assists Migrants Returning to their Home Countries, but Effectiveness of Reintegration Efforts Remains to Be Determined*, [GAO-19-62](#) (Washington, D.C.: Nov. 8, 2018).

²⁷All but two of these redesignations were coupled with a simultaneous extension of TPS.

²⁸The data on TPS beneficiaries in a given fiscal year include individuals who had been granted TPS as of September 30 of each fiscal year, including beneficiaries who were granted TPS in prior years and whose status was not withdrawn.

year 2000 to about 420,000 in fiscal year 2018.²⁹ The number of TPS beneficiaries increased most rapidly in fiscal years 2000 through 2005, particularly after the designation of Honduras in 1999 and El Salvador in 2001. According to USCIS officials, because adjudicating all TPS applications can take years, depending on the number of applicants from a country, the number of TPS beneficiaries for a designated country may continue rising after the established registration period for the specific designation. For example, although Honduras was initially designated for TPS in 1999, with an applicant registration period that ended on July 5, 1999, USCIS data show that the number of beneficiaries from Honduras who were granted TPS peaked in 2007 at 85,759 foreign nationals. See appendix II for additional information on the numbers of TPS beneficiaries in fiscal years 2000 through 2018, by country.

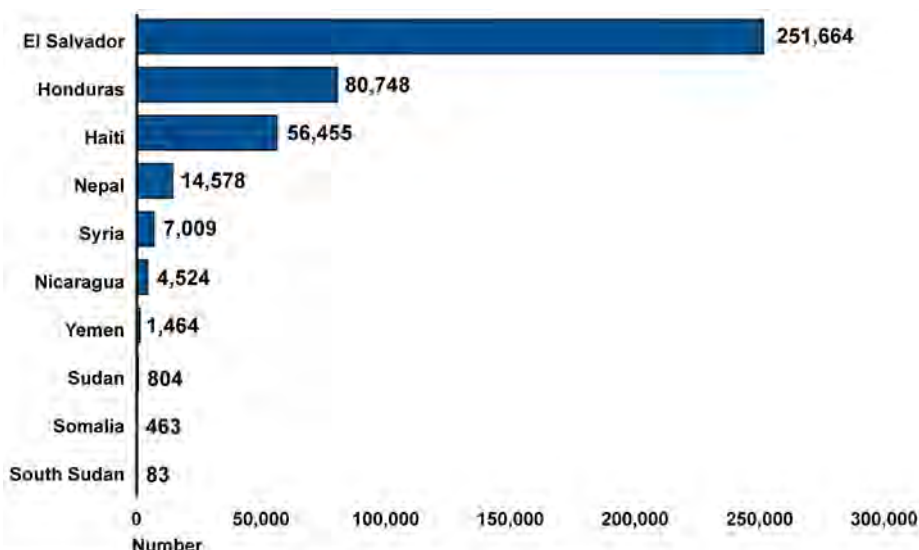
Data on the number of TPS beneficiaries for fiscal year 2018—the most recent available—show that the majority of TPS beneficiaries were from three countries (El Salvador, Honduras, and Haiti), as figure 3 shows.³⁰ About 98 percent of beneficiaries from six countries (Sudan, Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Haiti, and Nepal) in fiscal year 2018—408,773 foreign nationals—held TPS because the termination of their country's TPS designation was temporarily halted because of ongoing litigation. In addition, about 2 percent of beneficiaries from four countries (Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, and Yemen) in fiscal year 2018—9,019 foreign

²⁹According to USCIS officials, USCIS data on TPS beneficiaries during this period may include some individuals who adjusted to another immigration status as well as some who left the United States or died. We determined that USCIS data for fiscal years 2000 through 2018 were sufficiently reliable to provide general information on numbers of TPS beneficiaries. USCIS was not able to provide reliable data on numbers of TPS beneficiaries before fiscal year 2000 because, according to USCIS officials, these data were not consistently entered electronically in USCIS information systems before fiscal year 2000. Some of the individuals may have later had their TPS withdrawn because of individual ineligibility or because they became naturalized U.S. citizens. According to USCIS officials, TPS beneficiaries who become U.S. citizens or whose status has been withdrawn, either because they no longer meet eligibility requirements or because they requested that USCIS withdraw their status, are removed from USCIS data in the fiscal year that their status changes.

³⁰El Salvador was designated for TPS in 1990, in the statute that created TPS, and was designated again in 2001 after two major earthquakes in the country. Haiti was initially designated for TPS in 2010, after a major earthquake; the Secretary of Homeland Security redesignated Haiti in 2011 to allow eligible Haitians who arrived in the United States up to 1 year after the earthquake to apply for TPS. Honduras was initially designated for TPS after Hurricane Mitch struck the country in 1999. Ongoing insecurity due to violence and criminal activity, lack of economic opportunity, weak governance, and recurrent natural disasters have contributed to continual flows of migrants from Central American countries, including El Salvador and Honduras, as well as from Haiti, to the United States in recent years.

nationals—held TPS because their country’s designation was extended. See appendix II for additional information about beneficiary characteristics in fiscal year 2018, including age, gender, and location.

Figure 3: Temporary Protected Status Beneficiaries, by Country of Citizenship, Fiscal Year 2018



Source: GAO analysis of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services data. | GAO-20-134

Note: The data shown reflect eligible foreign nationals who had been granted Temporary Protected Status as of September 30, 2018. According to USCIS officials, these data may include some foreign nationals who had an additional immigration status, as well as some who had left the United States or died, since receiving TPS.

DHS’s Approach to Inform the Secretary’s TPS Reviews Includes Three Primary Steps

Our review of documentation for selected TPS decisions in fiscal years 2014 through 2018 and our interviews with DHS, USCIS, and State officials indicated that DHS’s approach for initial or subsequent reviews of countries for TPS consists of three primary steps:

1. The Secretary of Homeland Security initiates a review of a country for TPS. For an initial TPS designation, the Secretary may initiate consideration of a country in response to various triggering factors. Such factors may include, for example, a request from a U.S. government entity or a foreign government for a TPS designation based on the statutory conditions for TPS (i.e., armed conflict, environmental disaster, or extraordinary and temporary conditions). For an existing designation approaching its end date, a statutory deadline requires the Secretary to undertake a review.

2. DHS collects information on country conditions and recommendations from USCIS and State and provides this information to the Secretary of Homeland Security to inform his or her decision regarding an initial or existing TPS designation. Other DHS components and non-DHS entities, including other agencies and nongovernmental organizations, may also provide information to the Secretary or USCIS.
3. The Secretary of Homeland Security receives the information and recommendations and makes a decision about TPS for the country. The Secretary exercises discretion in determining whether to initially designate a country for TPS. For an existing designation, under the INA, the Secretary is required to determine whether country conditions warrant an extension of TPS or whether the country no longer meets the statutory criteria and TPS must be terminated. Also, the Secretary exercises discretion in determining whether to redesignate a country that was previously designated for TPS.

Figure 4 illustrates these three steps.

Figure 4: Three Primary Steps in Secretary of Homeland Security's Review for Initial or Existing Designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS)



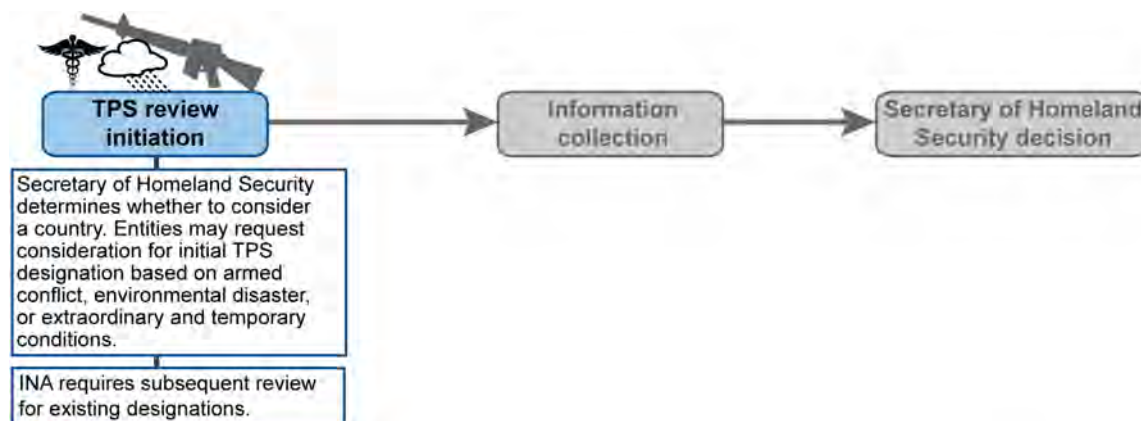
Source: GAO analysis of documentary and testimonial information from the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State. | GAO-20-134

Note: For an initial TPS designation, the Secretary of Homeland Security may initiate consideration of a country for TPS in response to various triggering factors. For an existing designation, a statutory deadline requires the Secretary to undertake a review. See 8 U.S.C. §1254a (b).

Secretary of Homeland Security May Consider a Country for Initial TPS Designation in Response to Various Factors, and Statute Requires Subsequent Reviews

Various factors may trigger consideration of a country for an initial TPS designation, according to USCIS officials. Officials stated that the Secretary of Homeland Security's consideration of a country for an initial designation is discretionary. However, subsequent reviews of existing designations are required by statute. See figure 5.

Figure 5: Initiation of Secretary of Homeland Security's Review for Initial or Existing Designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS)



Legend: INA = Immigration and Nationality Act.

Source: GAO analysis of documentary and testimonial information from Department of Homeland Security and Department of State. | GAO-20-134

Note: For an initial TPS designation, the Secretary of Homeland Security may initiate consideration of a country for TPS in response to various triggering factors, such as a request from a U.S. government entity or a foreign government. For an existing TPS designation, the Secretary is required, after consulting with appropriate agencies, to undertake a review of the conditions in the designated country at least 60 days before the designation's end date. 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(3).

USCIS and State officials stated that for initial TPS designations, a request from DHS, State, the White House, members of Congress, or foreign governments may trigger consideration of whether to designate a country on the basis of one or more of the three statutory categories (i.e., armed conflict, environmental disaster, or extraordinary and temporary conditions).³¹ USCIS officials added that, under the INA, the Secretary of Homeland Security has the sole authority to determine whether and when to consider a country for an initial TPS designation. Further, they noted that a request does not automatically result in a formal review of a country for TPS even if the country has experienced country conditions specified in one or more of the statutory categories, such as an armed conflict or environmental disaster.

For subsequent reviews of existing TPS designations, at least 60 days before the end of the designation period, the Secretary is required, after

³¹USCIS officials noted that a request from a foreign government is not required for DHS to consider a country for an initial TPS designation. They added that in some cases, DHS does not receive a request from any entity before the Secretary makes a determination to consider a country for an initial TPS designation.

consulting with other appropriate agencies, to undertake a review of the conditions in the foreign country for which a designation is in effect.³²

DHS Collects Country Conditions Reports and Recommendations to Inform the Secretary's TPS Decision

DHS collects similar information for each review of a country for TPS, according to DHS officials and our review of selected decisions. DHS officials identified four primary sources of information that the department collects to inform the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS decisions: country conditions reports compiled by USCIS and State and recommendations from USCIS and State leadership. According to DHS and State officials, DHS generally consults with State on TPS decisions, although it is not specifically required to do so under the statute.³³ Our review of 26 TPS decisions for the eight selected countries found that DHS collected the following documents to inform each decision:

1. a country conditions report compiled by USCIS,
2. a memo with a recommendation from the USCIS Director to the Secretary of Homeland Security,
3. a country conditions report compiled by State, and
4. a letter with a recommendation from the Secretary of State to the Secretary of Homeland Security.³⁴

USCIS manages and coordinates the TPS information-gathering process for the Secretary of Homeland Security. While State formally provides its input through the Secretary of State's letter and recommendation to the

³²8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(3).

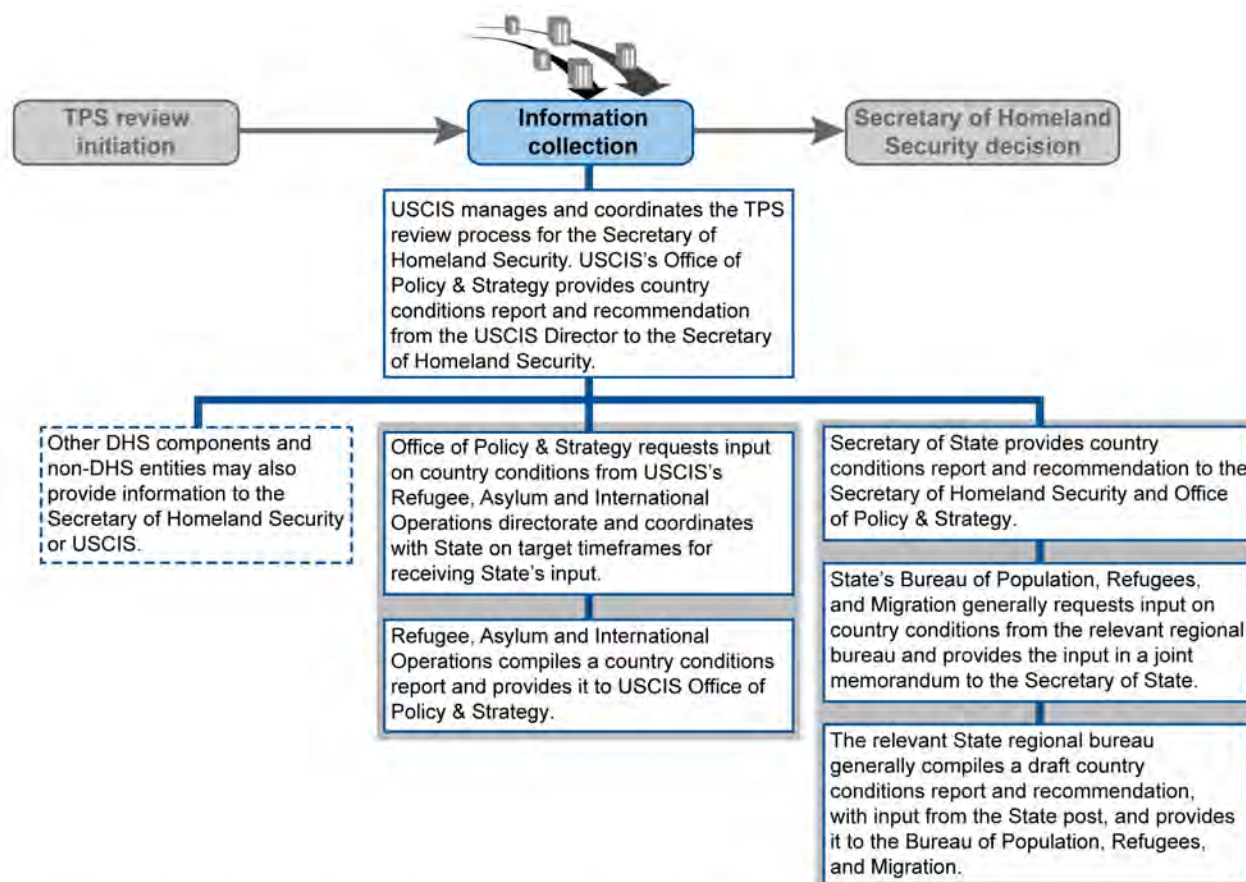
³³The Secretary of Homeland Security is required to consult with appropriate agencies of the government before making a designation according to 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(1), and prior to periodic reviews of existing designations, according to 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(3). The statute does not prescribe the other agencies that must be consulted.

³⁴Although the INA does not prescribe the type of input that must be provided by any agencies that the Secretary of Homeland Security consults with for a TPS review, we found that State generally has a role in providing input, including a country conditions report and recommendation, for the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS reviews. We reviewed documentation that DHS collected to inform the Secretary's decisions for a judgmental, nongeneralizable sample of eight of the 13 countries for which TPS decisions were rendered in fiscal years 2014 through 2018. Our sample included 26 TPS decisions (specifically, two initial designation decisions, three redesignation decisions, 15 extension decisions, and six termination decisions) from a total of 42 decisions during that period. Because of ongoing litigation, certain information had been redacted from documents for 13 of the 26 TPS decisions in our judgmental sample. See appendix I for additional details of our objectives, scope, and methodology.

Secretary of Homeland Security, USCIS officials said that USCIS generally incorporates the input from State into USCIS's country conditions report and recommendation on TPS.³⁵ DHS officials noted that other internal DHS components, government agencies, and other entities may also provide information about country conditions or other factors to inform the Secretary of Homeland Security's decisions. Figure 6 shows the information collected to support the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS reviews.

³⁵According to USCIS officials, the Secretary of State's letter and recommendation to the Secretary of Homeland Security, as well as State's country conditions report, are generally attached to USCIS's country conditions report and recommendation to inform the Secretary of Homeland Security's review.

Figure 6: Information Collected for the Secretary of Homeland Security's Review for Initial or Existing Designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS)



Legend: DHS = Department of Homeland Security; INA = Immigration and Nationality Act; State = Department of State; USCIS = U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Source: GAO analysis of documentary and testimonial information from DHS and State. | GAO-20-134

Note: The Secretary of Homeland Security is required to consult with appropriate agencies of the government before making a TPS designation, according to 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(1), and prior to periodic reviews of existing designations, according to 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(3). Although the INA does not prescribe the other agencies that must be consulted, State generally has a role in providing input for the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS reviews, based on our review of documentation for selected TPS decisions in fiscal years 2014 through 2018 and our interviews with DHS, USCIS, and State officials.

USCIS officials indicated that the time frames for conducting TPS reviews may vary. They noted that a review for an initial designation may have a shorter time frame than a review for an existing designation, depending on the situation. In addition, the officials noted that USCIS generally starts the review process for an existing TPS designation about 6 months to a year before the end date of the country's current designation. They added

that they generally start the review process within this timeframe, given the INA requirement that the Secretary of Homeland Security either undertake a review and make a determination regarding country conditions at least 60 days in advance of the prior designation's end date or automatically extend the designation for 6 months.³⁶ According to USCIS officials, at the start of a review for an initial or existing designation, USCIS's Office of Policy & Strategy generally reaches out to USCIS's Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate (RAIO) to request input on country conditions. USCIS officials also said that the office coordinates with State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration regarding the target time frame for receiving State's input. In general, once USCIS receives the input from RAIO and State, USCIS finalizes its country conditions report and recommendation memo for the Secretary of Homeland Security.

Our review of documentation for the eight countries in our nongeneralizable sample of 26 TPS decisions found variation in the time frames for USCIS's recommendation memos and for State's recommendation letters. For the 24 reviews of existing TPS designations, USCIS provided recommendation memos to the Secretary of Homeland Security about 2 to 7 months before the end date of the prior

³⁶According to 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(1)(C), after the Secretary of Homeland Security makes a decision regarding an initial TPS designation, the designation shall not become effective unless notice of the designation is published in the Federal Register. With regard to decisions to terminate or extend a designation after a required periodic review of an existing designation, the Secretary of Homeland Security is required to provide for the publication of notice of the determination in the Federal Register on a timely basis. Under the law, terminations may not take effect earlier than 60 days after the date of publication of the Federal Register notice announcing the termination decision or, if later, the expiration of the most recent previous extension. See 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(3).

designations.³⁷ Most of State's 26 recommendation letters were dated about 2 days to 6 months before the USCIS recommendation memos.³⁸

RAIO officials noted that they use an internal template as informal guidance for the draft country conditions reports that they compile for USCIS's Office of Policy & Strategy for reviews for initial or existing TPS designations. We reviewed the RAIO template and found, for example, that for reporting on a country being considered for a TPS designation on the basis of an environmental disaster, the template includes sections (e.g., several paragraphs) about the population harmed, damage to infrastructure, disruption in services, and status of disaster response and reconstruction. Officials added that country conditions reports may deviate from the template, because its use is not required; instead, it serves as general, informal guidance. RAIO officials also noted that information in the country conditions reports they compile is generally based on publicly available information or data related to country conditions. According to the officials, sources for such information may include U.S. agencies, foreign governments, international organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and news articles.

According to State officials, after State initiates its internal process for compiling information for the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS

³⁷Specifically, of the 24 TPS decisions for existing designations in our sample, nine of the USCIS recommendation memos were dated about 2 to 2.5 months in advance of the prior designation end date; six were dated about 3 to 4.5 months in advance of the prior designation end date; and eight were dated about 5 to 7 months in advance of the prior designation end date. One of the 24 USCIS recommendation memos provided to us was not dated, although USCIS provided an earlier draft memo for that TPS decision to us that was dated about 1.5 months in advance of the prior designation end date. Our sample also included two TPS decisions for initial designations (for a total of 26 decisions); because those designations did not have a prior end date, we did not include them in our analysis.

³⁸Specifically, State's recommendation letters for 23 of the 26 TPS decisions were dated in advance of the USCIS recommendation memos for those reviews. Six State letters were dated 2 days to 2 weeks in advance of the USCIS recommendation memo, six were dated 1 to 2 months in advance, seven were dated 2.5 to 4 months in advance, and four were dated 4.5 to 6 months in advance. Three of the 26 State recommendation letters were dated about 1 to 2 weeks after the USCIS recommendation memo. For those three instances, USCIS officials indicated that USCIS officials had communicated with State officials at the working level about the ongoing TPS reviews; however, USCIS did not receive State's final letters in time to incorporate the input into USCIS's memos for the Secretary of Homeland Security. They added that, because State formally provides its input directly to the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary has always received State's input in advance of a TPS decision. State officials indicated that although State strives to adhere to USCIS timelines, complex TPS cases with significant foreign policy considerations may require additional time for internal review.

review, the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration generally requests input internally from the relevant regional bureau and post before compiling information for the Secretary of State's consideration. See the text box for more details of State's internal process for developing country conditions reports and recommendation letters to inform the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS reviews.

State Department's Internal Process for Compiling Information for the Secretary of Homeland Security's Temporary Protected Status Reviews

The Department of State's (State) internal process for developing input for the Secretary of Homeland Security's Temporary Protected Status (TPS) reviews generally includes compiling information on country conditions as well as proposed recommendations from the relevant regional bureau and overseas post, according to documentation for selected TPS decisions in fiscal years 2014 through 2018 and our interviews with DHS, USCIS, and State officials. State's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) facilitates and coordinates State's internal process for developing this input, according to informal guidance, which State officials said the bureau has used at the working level since 2012, as well as our interviews with State officials.

After DHS initiates a TPS review, PRM generally directs the relevant regional bureau to reach out to overseas posts for information about country conditions, according to State officials. State officials noted that in some cases, the regional bureau's country desk officer takes the lead in drafting the country conditions report, depending on the country context. Officials stated that the regional bureau generally uses a questionnaire on country conditions to request information from the post for a TPS review and that the post generally also provides a recommendation, in addition to the questionnaire responses, via cable or email to the regional bureau. For example, for a country that had an existing TPS designation based on ongoing armed conflict in the country, a country conditions cable provided, among other things, information about the status of the armed conflict, an assessment of whether the return of foreign nationals would pose a serious threat to their personal safety and whether the country was unable to handle the return of nationals, and information about the impact of the conflict on economic and humanitarian conditions. State and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) officials noted that other agencies represented at the overseas posts, such as USAID, may provide information for a post's input on country conditions, including information gathered "on the ground" as well as from publicly available sources.

Once the regional bureau receives any input from post, the bureau desk officer prepares a draft country conditions report and recommendation, and the regional bureau works with PRM to compile a joint action memo. PRM generally provides the joint action memo, which includes a country conditions report, to the Secretary of State, according to State officials. The memo may include a joint recommendation or varying recommendations (e.g., from PRM and the regional bureau) for the Secretary's consideration. After the Secretary determines what the department will recommend, State provides a final country conditions report and recommendation letter to the Secretary of Homeland Security as well as to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' Office of Policy & Strategy.

Source: GAO summary of documentary and testimonial information provided by State and USAID. | GAO-20-134

We found that the USCIS and State country conditions reports and recommendation memos or letters that DHS and State provided for our nongeneralizable sample of 26 TPS decisions included information such as background on the cause (or reason for consideration) of the initial

TPS designation and a summary of the country's recovery from, or the status of, the situation to date. In addition, documentation provided to us for some of the TPS decisions included other information, such as certain economic indicators or broader country context. Specifically:

- **Cause and recovery or status.** USCIS and State documentation for each of the 26 TPS decisions in our review generally included (1) information related to the cause (or reason for consideration) of the initial TPS designation and (2) a summary of the country's recovery from, or the status of, the situation to date. For example, documentation for a country designated on the basis of armed conflict described the status of the conflict and ceasefire agreements; provided information about violence against civilians and recruitment of child soldiers; provided an update on civilian casualties since the prior review; and described humanitarian challenges stemming from the conflict, such as the risk of famine. For a country designated on the basis of environmental disaster, documentation described the status of investments in recovery and efforts to rebuild after the disaster, including the number of houses and schools that had been rebuilt or repaired. This documentation also included assessments of disruption in living conditions and the extent to which economic activity and basic services had been restored.
- **Economic indicators.** USCIS documentation for 16 TPS decisions and State documentation for 12 TPS decisions in our review included information about economic indicators. Examples of such information included an estimate of damages from an environmental disaster as a percentage of a country's gross domestic product, a summary of growth in a country's gross domestic product in recent years, and data on the increase in food prices as a result of armed conflict in a country.³⁹
- **Broader country context.** USCIS documentation for 23 TPS decisions in our review and State documentation for 20 TPS decisions provided information about broader country context. For example, documentation for a country designated on the basis of armed conflict included broader context regarding topics such as recent natural disasters and the country's geography. As another example, documentation for a country designated on the basis of environmental

³⁹We determined that USCIS and State documentation (e.g., country conditions reports and recommendation memos or letters) for a TPS decision included information about economic indicators if the documentation provided information about one or more indicators, such as gross domestic product, consumer prices, or unemployment statistics.

disaster provided information about subsequent natural disasters as well as violence, criminal activity, and corruption in the country.

In addition to USCIS and State, other DHS offices and components and non-DHS entities may provide information to inform the Secretary's decision. DHS officials noted that such information varies, may be solicited or unsolicited, and may be provided directly to the Secretary of Homeland Security or to USCIS. We reviewed examples of such information for several of the TPS decisions in our nongeneralizable sample.⁴⁰ This information included items such as

- immigration data or intelligence analyses from other DHS offices and components—for example, the Office of Immigration Statistics, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement;
- updates from the Department of Defense on the security situation in a country;
- technical input from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding the status of an epidemic; and
- input from other entities, including letters from members of Congress, foreign government officials, and nongovernmental organizations.⁴¹

In addition, DHS officials stated that the Secretary of Homeland Security may hold briefings or meetings on TPS reviews both internally and with

⁴⁰DHS and State provided examples of other information compiled for each of the eight countries in our nongeneralizable sample, representing 15 of 26 TPS decisions.

⁴¹For example, a senior official from DHS's Office of Immigration Statistics provided us with several examples of immigration data that the office provided to DHS and USCIS officials for recent TPS reviews. The official noted that the office routinely provides immigration data—in particular, estimates of unauthorized individuals residing in the United States who would be eligible for an initial designation or redesignation—to both DHS and USCIS for TPS reviews. In addition, DHS's Office of Intelligence and Analysis developed an intelligence assessment that provided an overview of implications, including homeland security considerations and operational considerations for law enforcement, if TPS were to expire for certain countries. According to officials from the Office of Intelligence and Analysis, the office developed the assessment on its own initiative, and it was provided to the Secretary of Homeland Security as part of a daily briefing book as well as posted to an internal dissemination portal for cleared users. As another example, DHS's Office of the Military Advisor requested and received information from the Commander of a Department of Defense combatant command about the security situation, humanitarian challenges, and implications of terminating TPS for a country. Department of Defense officials stated that the department has not provided formal input for TPS reviews.

external entities, such as White House officials, foreign government officials, and nongovernmental organizations or advocacy groups.⁴²

According to DHS officials, after USCIS and State compile their country conditions reports and recommendations for the Secretary of Homeland Security's consideration, other DHS components—including the Office of Strategy, Policy, and Plans; the Office of the General Counsel; and the Management Directorate—review the documents as part of the standard departmental clearance process before providing them to the Secretary. Officials from these DHS components noted that the purpose of their review is generally to provide relevant technical comments and ensure that complete information has been gathered for the Secretary's review.

Secretary of Homeland Security Makes a TPS Decision

According to USCIS officials, after receiving the information and recommendations from USCIS and State, as well as information from any other sources, the Secretary of Homeland Security makes a decision regarding a country's initial or existing TPS designation.⁴³ USCIS officials indicated that the Secretary's decisions may not always follow the recommendations of the USCIS Director or the Secretary of State. For example, among the 26 TPS decisions from 2014 through 2018 that we reviewed, the Secretary of Homeland Security's decision was the same as State's recommendation in 21 cases and differed from State's recommendation in five cases.⁴⁴

- **Initial designation.** USCIS officials stated that if the Secretary of Homeland Security determines a country meets the statutory criteria

⁴²For example, we reviewed an agenda and materials for a briefing related to a TPS review for a country. Participants included officials from the White House, DHS, State, and the Department of Justice. The agenda included an overview of TPS and discussion of decision options. Attached materials included background on TPS and the statutory authorities governing TPS, as well as a summary of country conditions and decision options.

⁴³Although we reviewed the steps that DHS takes to inform the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS decisions, we did not review the Secretary's decision-making for specific TPS decisions for the countries we selected for our review. See appendix I for additional details of our objectives, scope, and methodology.

⁴⁴The Secretary of State's recommendations in the five cases varied. These cases included instances when State recommended terminating a designation that DHS decided to extend or when State recommended extending a designation that DHS decided to terminate. Because of redactions that had been made in the information we received, we were unable to discern whether any of the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS decisions differed from USCIS's recommendations.

for designation, the Secretary may then exercise discretion in deciding whether to initially designate the country for TPS.

- **Existing designation.** According to USCIS officials, the Secretary of Homeland Security exercises discretion in determining whether the conditions in a country satisfy statutory conditions for retaining an existing designation. However, the officials indicated that if the Secretary determines that the conditions for TPS designation continue to be met, the Secretary is required under the INA to extend the designation.⁴⁵ Additionally, USCIS officials stated that if the Secretary determines a country no longer meets conditions for TPS designation, the Secretary is required under the INA to terminate the designation. Finally, USCIS officials stated that the Secretary may exercise discretion in deciding to redesignate a country with an existing designation and that factors such as a significant deterioration in country conditions may weigh in favor of a redesignation.⁴⁶

Once the Secretary of Homeland Security decides whether to designate a country or to extend or terminate TPS, the decision may be documented through a signed memorandum or communicated orally to USCIS, according to USCIS officials. DHS provided memorandums or notices documenting the Secretary's TPS decisions for all 26 decisions in our nongeneralizable sample.⁴⁷ After the Secretary makes a TPS decision, DHS typically communicates the decision to State before announcing it to the general public. Either DHS or State then communicates the decision to the foreign embassy in Washington, D.C., and State may communicate it to the foreign government overseas. Finally, under INA provisions

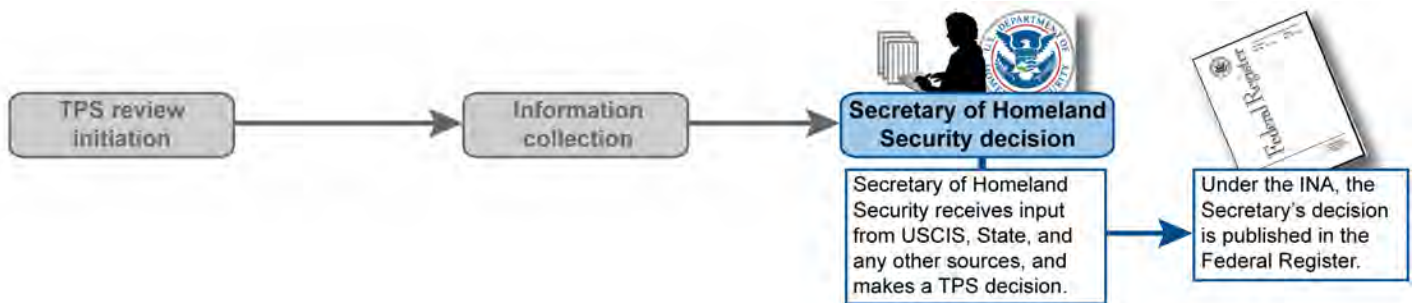
⁴⁵8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(3).

⁴⁶USCIS officials noted that, while factors such as a significant deterioration in country conditions may weigh in favor of a redesignation, there is no single factor that the Secretary of Homeland Security has generally considered in exercising discretion to redesignate a country for TPS.

⁴⁷Specifically, DHS provided a completed signature page from a USCIS recommendation memo as documentation of the Secretary of Homeland Security's decisions in six cases. DHS provided a separate memorandum from the Secretary to the Director of USCIS documenting the TPS decision in two cases, a completed signature page for a memorandum from DHS's Office of the General Counsel documenting the Secretary's decision in another case, and completed signature pages for draft Federal Register notices documenting the Secretary's decisions in 17 cases.

related to TPS, the Secretary's decision is published in the Federal Register (see fig. 7).⁴⁸

Figure 7: Secretary of Homeland Security's Decision on Temporary Protected Status (TPS)



Legend: INA = Immigration and Nationality Act; State = Department of State; USCIS = U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Source: GAO analysis of documentary and testimonial information from the Department of Homeland Security and from State. | GAO-20-134

Note: The Secretary of Homeland Security exercises discretion in determining whether to initially designate or redesignate a country for TPS. For an existing designation, under the INA, the Secretary of Homeland Security is required to determine whether country conditions warrant an extension of TPS or whether the country no longer meets the statutory criteria and TPS must be terminated. The INA requires DHS to provide official notice of TPS decisions through the Federal Register. A decision to designate a country for TPS is effective once published in the Federal Register or on a later date specified by the Secretary of Homeland Security. For subsequent TPS reviews of existing designations, DHS is required to provide timely notice of the Secretary of Homeland Security's decision in the Federal Register, and the effective date is generally the day after the end date of the current designation period. The INA provides that a termination shall not be effective earlier than 60 days after the date that a Federal Register notice is published or, if later, the expiration of the most recent previous extension. 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b).

⁴⁸According to 8 U.S.C. §1254A (b)(1), after the Secretary of Homeland Security makes a decision regarding an initial TPS designation, the designation shall not become effective unless notice of the designation is published in the Federal Register. With regard to decisions to extend or terminate a designation after a required periodic review of an existing designation, the Secretary of Homeland Security is required to provide for the publication of notice of the determination in the Federal Register on a timely basis. Under the law, terminations may not take effect earlier than 60 days after the date of publication of the Federal Register notice announcing the termination decision or, if later, the expiration of the most recent previous extension. See 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(3).

DHS Has Communicated TPS Decisions through Required Federal Register Notices but Provided Inconsistent Guidance on Employment Authorizations

DHS Has Communicated TPS Decisions to the Public through Required Federal Register Notices and Other Mechanisms

Since 1990, all TPS decisions have been communicated to the public through statutorily required notices in the Federal Register.⁴⁹ DHS has also used other mechanisms, including press releases and its website, to help disseminate TPS-related information to the public.

We found that a Federal Register notice was published for all TPS decisions, as required under the INA, from November 1990 to September 2019.⁵⁰ In addition, DHS frequently used Federal Register notices as a mechanism for communicating other related information, such as effective dates for TPS designation periods, applicant registration periods, TPS beneficiary eligibility requirements, and information about employment authorization for beneficiaries. For example, the Federal Register notice

⁴⁹The authority to designate countries for TPS was transferred from the Attorney General to the Secretary of Homeland Security in 2003, after the Department of Justice's Immigration and Naturalization Service was abolished and its immigration services and enforcement functions were transferred to the Department of Homeland Security pursuant to the Homeland Security Act of 2002. Pub. L. No. 107-296, title I & IV, §§ 101, 102, 456, 471, 478, 116 Stat. 2135, 2142, 2143-44, 2200-01, 2205, 2211-12 (2002) (classified, as amended, at 6 U.S.C. §§ 111, 112, 275, 291, 298). See also 8 U.S.C. § 1103(a) (powers and duties of the Secretary of Homeland Security).

⁵⁰INA provisions related to TPS state that TPS decisions, including designations, extensions, and terminations, shall be published in the Federal Register. The effective dates of TPS decisions may vary, in accordance with the statute. See 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b).

extending the TPS designation of El Salvador, published on July 8, 2016, included the following⁵¹:

- summary information about the extension, such as the period of extension and the start and end date of the extension;
- procedures and eligibility information for beneficiaries to register or reregister for TPS and to apply for renewal of employment authorization documents, including required forms and fees to register or reregister;⁵²
- directions for obtaining additional information and help with questions by accessing the USCIS website or by contacting an identified USCIS official or a USCIS customer contact center; and
- general information about TPS as well as information about El Salvador's initial TPS designation and about the Secretary's authority and reason for extending TPS for El Salvador.

For a Federal Register notice of a TPS decision, according to USCIS officials, USCIS generally takes about 2 weeks to draft the notice. DHS then completes an internal review before submitting the notice to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for interagency review, according to officials. OMB's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs coordinates the notice review process, including gathering comments or proposed revisions from relevant executive branch agencies. For example, we reviewed examples of technical comments from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding draft notices of TPS decisions for the Ebola-affected countries that included information and data on the status of the epidemic and an assessment of health care infrastructure. According to USCIS officials, OMB comments are returned to DHS without identifying the agency that made each comment, and additional interagency review and comment may occur before DHS publishes the notice in the Federal Register. USCIS officials also noted that, under regulation, OMB can take up to 90 days to complete the

⁵¹See 81 Fed. Reg. 44645 (July 8, 2016).

⁵²Once granted TPS, an individual must reregister during each reregistration period, in the case of an extension or redesignation, to maintain TPS benefits. TPS beneficiaries generally have 60 days to reregister. However, late reregistration is permitted if good cause is met and USCIS officials are instructed to give beneficiaries the benefit of any doubt, according to USCIS officials. According to USCIS officials, because of ongoing TPS litigation, eligible beneficiaries from six countries (Haiti, El Salvador, Sudan, Nicaragua, Honduras, and Nepal) are allowed to maintain their TPS, provided they have reregistered during at least one or more of the reregistration periods specified in footnote 1 of the Federal Register notice published at 84 Fed. Reg. 59403 (Nov. 4, 2019).

interagency review, although the officials added that OMB aims to complete the process in a timely manner for TPS notices and generally takes about a month.

According to USCIS officials, to help raise awareness of TPS decisions, USCIS has generally also issued press releases announcing all TPS decisions and published them on its website in addition to publishing Federal Register notices. Table 2 summarizes information from DHS’s publication of a press release and Federal Register notice for a 2016 TPS decision.

Table 2: Department of Homeland Security’s Public Communication of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Extension for Honduras in 2016

Type of communication	Publication date	Description
Press release	May 16, 2016	The prior extension of Honduras’s TPS designation was set to end on July 5, 2016. In May, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) published a press release on its website announcing that the Secretary of Homeland Security had extended TPS for eligible nationals of Honduras for an additional 18 months, effective July 6, 2016, through Jan. 5, 2018. The press release included guidance for TPS beneficiaries regarding TPS reregistration requirements. In addition, the press release stated that, for eligible foreign nationals who reregistered for TPS, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services would issue new employment authorization documents with a Jan. 5, 2018, expiration date.
Federal Register notice	May 16, 2016	DHS published a Federal Register notice of the decision to extend the designation of Honduras for TPS. The notice included additional details of the decision as well as guidance for TPS beneficiaries regarding reregistration requirements.

Source: GAO analysis of DHS documentation and information provided in Federal Register notices. | GAO-20-134

USCIS has also taken other steps to communicate TPS decisions and related information to the public. USCIS has updated its TPS country-specific webpages with alerts about the latest TPS decisions and registration periods, among other information. Further, according to USCIS officials, the Office of Public Affairs hosted periodic national TPS teleconferences for stakeholders and conducted outreach meetings to respond to questions and discuss TPS information in communities where there might be a large number of TPS beneficiaries. For example, a teleconference invitation from USCIS to stakeholders to discuss the extension of Haiti’s TPS designation in May 2017 indicated that USCIS officials would share information about the TPS reregistration period and procedures for eligible Haitian nationals and would respond to stakeholder questions. Officials from USCIS’s Office of Public Affairs also stated that the office has drafted guidance for communicating most TPS decisions. We reviewed examples of the guidance, which included planned time lines for publishing the press releases and information to

USCIS's website as well as for conducting outreach to Congress, stakeholder groups, and TPS beneficiaries.

DHS Published Most Federal Register Notices of Decisions on Existing TPS Designations before Previous Designations' End Date

USCIS officials noted that once the Secretary of Homeland Security makes a TPS decision, time frames for publishing the Federal Register notice may vary.⁵³ USCIS officials stated that, in an effort to ensure public awareness of the decisions as soon as possible, USCIS has in some cases published a press release before the Federal Register notice of a decision was finalized and published.

In reviewing TPS decisions for existing designations (i.e., extensions, terminations, and redesignations) in fiscal years 1990 through 2019, we found the following:

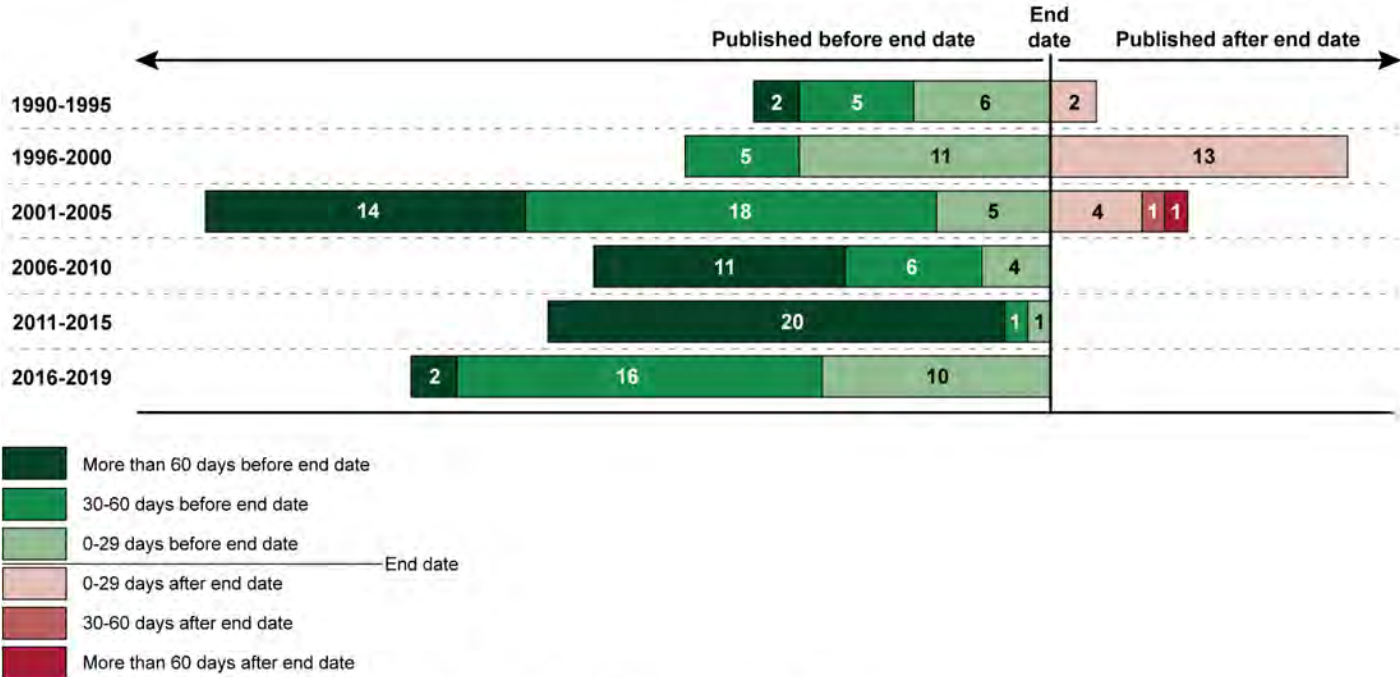
- About two-thirds of Federal Register notices announcing TPS decisions for these existing designations were published at least 30 days before the end date of the previous designation period (100 of 158 total notices).
- In fiscal years 1990 through 2005, 21 Federal Register notices announcing TPS decisions for existing designations were published after the end of the previous designation period.⁵⁴
- In fiscal years 2006 through 2019, all 71 Federal Register notices announcing TPS decisions for existing designations were published 4 to 159 days before the end date of the previous designation period.

See figure 8 for more details.

⁵³The INA requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to undertake a review of country conditions for an existing TPS designation at least 60 days before the end of the current designation period. Under the INA, DHS must publish decisions to extend or terminate a country's TPS designation in the Federal Register on a "timely basis." 8 U.S.C. § 1254a(b)(3). USCIS officials noted that they aim to publish a Federal Register notice as expeditiously as possible after the Secretary makes a TPS decision. However, the officials said that timeframes for publishing the Federal Register notice of a TPS decision may vary, depending on the OMB interagency review process, among other factors.

⁵⁴Under 8 U.S.C. § 1254a, a TPS country designation shall remain in effect until the effective date of the termination of the designation. Therefore, in instances in which the publication of a notice in the Federal Register occurred after the end date of the previous TPS designation, such TPS designation would continue unless and until terminated by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

Figure 8: Numbers of Federal Register Notices of Extensions, Terminations, or Redesignations of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Designations Published before and after End Dates of Previous Designation Periods, Fiscal Years 1990-2019



Source: GAO analysis of information provided in Department of Homeland Security Federal Register notices. | GAO-20-134

Note: Under 8 U.S.C. § 1254a, DHS must publish decisions to extend or terminate a country's TPS designation in the Federal Register on a timely basis. A TPS country designation remains in effect until the effective date of the termination of the designation. Therefore, while publication of a notice in the Federal Register may occur after the previous period of TPS designation has lapsed, the TPS designation will continue unless and until terminated by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

USCIS Published Guidance Has Not Consistently Identified All Mechanisms Used to Communicate Automatic Extensions of TPS Employment Authorization Documents

Since 1990, two mechanisms—Federal Register notices and individually mailed notifications, which TPS beneficiaries may use as evidence of their eligibility for employment—have been used to communicate automatic extensions of employment authorization documents. However, USCIS's published guidance has not consistently identified each of these as official mechanisms to verify eligibility, resulting in confusion among employers about TPS beneficiaries' employment eligibility. The INA states that DHS shall provide TPS beneficiaries with "an 'employment authorized' endorsement or other appropriate work permit" but does not specify the mechanisms that DHS should use to communicate TPS employment authorization. To receive documentation of work authorization, TPS beneficiaries generally apply for an employment authorization document after an initial TPS designation and also after any

subsequent extensions or redesignations of TPS.⁵⁵ See the text box for a description of the process that TPS beneficiaries and employers must follow to verify beneficiaries' employment eligibility.

⁵⁵According to USCIS officials, TPS registrants and reregistrants are not required to apply for an employment authorization document; however, TPS beneficiaries typically apply for the document to obtain evidence of authorization to work in the United States.

Employment Eligibility Verification (Form I-9) Process

Form I-9 lays out a process for verifying that an employee is authorized to work in the United States. First, Form I-9 requires the employee to attest to his or her citizenship or immigration status and provide acceptable documentation of identity and employment authorization. Such documents may establish both identity and employment eligibility (e.g., an employment authorization document—Form I-766—that contains a photograph) or may establish identity only (e.g., a driver's license) or employment eligibility only (e.g., a Social Security card).

Next, Form I-9 requires the employer to attest that he or she has examined the documents presented by the employee; that the documents appear to be genuine and relate to the employee; and that, to the best of the employer's knowledge, the employee is authorized to work in the United States. In examining the documents, the employer must reject any that do not reasonably appear to be genuine and to relate to the individual presenting them or that are not on the list of acceptable documents; the employer must then ask for other documents that satisfy the requirements of Form I-9.

 Employment Eligibility Verification Department of Homeland Security U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services				USCIS Form I-9 <small>OMB No. 1615-0047</small> <small>Expires 10/31/2022</small>	
<p>▶ START HERE: Read instructions carefully before completing this form. The instructions must be available, either in paper or electronically, during completion of this form. Employers are liable for errors in the completion of this form.</p> <p>ANTI-DISCRIMINATION NOTICE: It is illegal to discriminate against work-authorized individuals. Employers CANNOT specify which document(s) an employee may present to establish employment authorization and identity. The refusal to hire or continue to employ an individual because the documentation presented has a future expiration date may also constitute illegal discrimination.</p>					
<p>Section 1. Employee Information and Attestation <i>(Employees must complete and sign Section 1 of Form I-9 no later than the first day of employment, but not before accepting a job offer.)</i></p>					
Last Name (Family Name)		First Name (Given Name)		Middle Initial	Other Last Names Used (if any)
Address (Street Number and Name)			Apt. Number	City or Town	State ZIP Code
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)	U.S. Social Security Number		Employee's E-mail Address		Employee's Telephone Number
<p>I am aware that federal law provides for imprisonment and/or fines for false statements or use of false documents in connection with the completion of this form.</p> <p>I attest, under penalty of perjury, that I am (check one of the following boxes):</p>					
<p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. A citizen of the United States</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. A noncitizen national of the United States (See instructions)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. A lawful permanent resident (Alien Registration Number/USCIS Number)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4. An alien authorized to work until (expiration date, if applicable, mm/dd/yyyy)</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Some aliens may write "N/A" in the expiration date field. (See instructions)</p>					
<p style="font-size: x-small;">Aliens authorized to work must provide only one of the following document numbers to complete Form I-9: An Alien Employment Authorization Number (E-AD Number) OR Form I-94, Admission Number (I-94 Form) OR Passport Number</p>					
					QR Code - Section 1 (Do Not Write in This Space)

Source: GAO summary of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services documents and guidance. | GAO-20-134

According to USCIS officials, USCIS aims to adjudicate both initial employment authorization applications and renewal applications within 90 days after receiving an application. When it is unable to process the adjudications in this time frame, USCIS issues automatic extensions of expiring employment authorization documents for TPS beneficiaries from

a specific country, to allow time for USCIS to process the volume of applications associated with a TPS reregistration period.⁵⁶ In some instances, USCIS may issue additional automatic extensions of employment authorization documents for specific countries if it has been unable to process all pending applications within the initial automatic extension period, according to USCIS officials.

When employment authorization documents are automatically extended for eligible TPS beneficiaries, the documents may appear to have expired even though they remain valid. According to USCIS officials, DHS has used the Federal Register notices announcing TPS decisions to communicate most automatic extensions of TPS employment authorization documents. For example, on January 17, 2017, DHS published a Federal Register notice extending the TPS designation of Somalia for 18 months and, in the same notice, automatically extended for 6 months the validity of employment authorization documents issued under Somalia's TPS designation.⁵⁷ DHS has also communicated automatic extensions of TPS employment authorization documents through Federal Register notices independent of a TPS decision. Generally, Federal Register notices announcing automatic extensions of TPS employment authorization documents include instructions for employers for completing the Form I-9, among other things. Additionally, some notices state that, to reduce employer confusion regarding automatic extensions of TPS employment authorization documents, beneficiaries should explain the extension to their employer and may also provide their employer with a copy of the relevant Federal Register notice.

⁵⁶According to USCIS guidance, automatic extensions of employment authorization documents for TPS beneficiaries may be valid for up to 180 days. USCIS officials told us that beneficiaries must generally reregister during the reregistration period for an extension of their status and that reregistration is required for beneficiaries to obtain a new employment authorization document with the validity dates of the new TPS designation period. Individual TPS beneficiaries may also receive an automatic extension of their expiring employment authorization document on the basis of timely filing of a renewal application. According to USCIS officials, these extensions are issued on an individual basis. See 8 CFR 274a.13(d).

⁵⁷According to USCIS officials, the majority of Federal Register notices announcing TPS decisions have included an automatic extension of employment authorization documents. However, some automatic extensions have been announced through Federal Register notices independent of TPS decisions. For example, on July 7, 2005, DHS published a Federal Register notice solely to announce an automatic extension of employment authorization documentation for Honduran and Nicaraguan TPS beneficiaries. See 70 Fed. Reg. 39325 (July 7, 2005).

In five cases, beginning in fiscal year 2018, USCIS mailed notifications of automatic extensions of employment authorization documents to thousands of TPS beneficiaries from Haiti, El Salvador, Syria, and Honduras as an alternative or a supplement to posting the information in Federal Register notices.⁵⁸ USCIS officials told us that in these cases, they mailed individual notifications of the automatic extensions to ensure that the beneficiaries would not experience any gaps in employment authorization. According to the officials, they began this practice because of the large number of affected beneficiaries. Our examination of USCIS documents found that in four of these five cases, USCIS mailed individual notifications to the TPS beneficiaries without also posting a Federal Register notice communicating the automatic extension.

In all five cases, USCIS published guidance on its website to inform TPS beneficiaries and employers about the use of individually mailed notifications to communicate employment authorization document extensions. USCIS's website states that TPS beneficiaries may present the Federal Register notice or individually mailed notification to their employer along with their expired employment authorization documents to show proof of continued employment authorization. The individual notifications also state that beneficiaries may show the notifications, along with the expired employment authorization document, to any U.S. employer as proof of continued employment authorization.⁵⁹

However, a USCIS handbook for employers and related guidance do not specifically identify the individually mailed notifications as an official means of communicating these extensions.

- USCIS's *Handbook for Employers: Guidance for Completing Form I-9 (M-274)* provides guidance for employers on how to properly complete Form I-9, which helps employers verify that individuals are authorized to work in the United States. The handbook contains a section about

⁵⁸Specifically, USCIS mailed notifications of automatic extensions of employment authorization documents for Haiti on January 22, 2018, and on July 18, 2018; for El Salvador on August 23, 2018; for Syria on September 11, 2018; and for Honduras on December 6, 2018. USCIS communicated an automatic extension of employment authorization documents for TPS beneficiaries from Haiti through the individually mailed notification, sent on January 22, 2018, as well as through a Federal Register notice published on January 18, 2018.

⁵⁹USCIS officials noted that USCIS also provides information about automatic extensions of TPS employment authorization documents in E-Verify, a voluntary web-based system that allows employers to confirm the eligibility of their employees to work in the United States.

automatic employment authorization document extensions for TPS beneficiaries that references USCIS's use of Federal Register notices to inform the public of these extensions. However, the handbook for employers does not mention USCIS's use of individually mailed notifications to communicate the automatic extensions.

- USCIS's *Instructions for Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification* notes that certain employees, including TPS beneficiaries, may present an expired employment authorization document, which may be considered unexpired if the document has been extended by USCIS. The guidance also notes that employees should enter the expiration date of an automatic extension on Form I-9. However, the instructions for Form I-9 do not detail USCIS's mechanisms for communicating these extensions, including its use of individually mailed notifications.

Some employers have reportedly refused to accept expired employment authorization documents as proof of work authorization when the documents had been automatically extended. For example, the Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division telephone interventions website indicates that on approximately 50 occasions from September 2017 through May 2019, the Immigrant and Employee Rights Section intervened to deter employers or medical licensing boards from rejecting valid work authorization documents and, in some cases, from terminating employment for TPS beneficiaries whose employment authorization documents had been automatically extended.⁶⁰ Also, a letter to USCIS signed by 70 law professors and scholars states that some legal service providers have reported instances of employers' terminating TPS beneficiaries' employment because the employer did not understand or accept the individually mailed notifications.⁶¹ Further, USCIS has received feedback from certain stakeholders concerned that beneficiaries might not be receiving the individual notifications in time to avoid any potential gaps in work authorization, according to USCIS officials.

USCIS officials told us that the Federal Register process may be beneficial for communicating employment authorization in some cases but that they may also continue to use the individually mailed notifications

⁶⁰Department of Justice Civil Rights Division, "Telephone Interventions," accessed June 27, 2019, <https://www.justice.gov/crt/telephone-interventions-2>.

⁶¹Catholic Legal Immigration Network, letter to Secretary of Homeland Security and Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, November 28, 2018, accessed March 27, 2019, <https://cliniclegal.org/resources/humanitarian-relief/letter-70-law-professors-and-scholars-uscis-and-dhs-regarding-work>.

as a mechanism to communicate future extensions, depending on the circumstances. USCIS has acknowledged the potential benefits of updating external guidance regarding automatic extensions of TPS employment authorization documents. However, as of December 2019, USCIS had not taken action to do so. Replying to a letter of concern from an advocacy group, USCIS stated that it could consider updating the handbook for employers to add additional guidance regarding individually mailed notifications.⁶²

Effective information and communication are vital for an entity to achieve its objectives. According to *Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government*, management should document policies in the appropriate level of detail and externally communicate the necessary quality information to achieve an entity's objectives.⁶³ Updating external guidance, such as the employer handbook, to clearly identify each of the official mechanisms that USCIS may use to communicate automatic extensions of TPS employment authorization documents could help USCIS ensure that employers understand and accept each of its official mechanisms for communicating these automatic extensions. This, in turn, would help to reduce the risk of employers' terminating beneficiaries from their jobs as a result of confusion caused by unclear or inconsistent guidance.

Conclusions

The Secretary of Homeland Security has granted TPS, providing work authorization and protection from removal, to foreign nationals from 22 countries since TPS was established in 1990. DHS has generally communicated information about employment authorization for TPS beneficiaries in a Federal Register notice, although in some cases USCIS used individually mailed notifications to communicate automatic extensions of employment authorization documents. However, USCIS's published guidance has not consistently identified individually mailed notifications as a mechanism that may be used, leading to confusion about beneficiaries' employment eligibility and reportedly resulting in termination of some beneficiaries' employment. Consistent published guidance that clearly identifies each of the mechanisms used to communicate automatic extensions of TPS employment authorization

⁶²U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, letter to Director of Advocacy at the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, December 6, 2018, accessed June 27, 2019, https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/files/natedocuments/Work_Authorization_extensions_for_individuals_with_TPS_from_Haiti_El_Salvador_and_Syria_-_Bussey.pdf.

⁶³GAO-14-704G.

documents could help USCIS ensure that employers understand and accept the evidence USCIS provides for employment authorization, reducing the risk of erroneous termination of beneficiaries' employment.

Recommendation for Executive Action

The Director of USCIS should update published guidance, such as *Handbook for Employers: Guidance for Completing Form I-9 (M-274)*, to consistently identify each of the official mechanisms that USCIS may use to communicate automatic extensions of TPS employment authorization documents.

(Recommendation 1)

Agency Comments

We provided a draft of this report to DHS, State, the Department of Defense, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the U.S. Agency for International Development for review and comment. In its written comments, reproduced in appendix III, DHS agreed with our recommendation and noted planned actions to implement it, including updating guidance in DHS's M-274 handbook. DHS's planned actions will address the intent of our recommendation if they include updating guidance regarding each of the official mechanisms that USCIS may use to communicate automatic extensions of TPS employment authorization documents, including the use of individually mailed notifications. The U.S. Agency for International Development also provided written comments, which are reproduced in appendix IV. In addition, DHS and State provided technical comments that we incorporated as appropriate. The Department of Defense and the Department of Health and Human Services did not provide comments.

We are sending copies of this report to the appropriate congressional committees, and the Acting Secretary of Homeland Security and Secretary of State, as well as the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development.

If you or your staff have any questions about this report, please contact Chelsa Gurkin at (202) 512-2964 or GurkinC@gao.gov, or Rebecca Gambler at (202) 512-6912 or GamblerR@gao.gov. Contact points for our Offices of Congressional Relations and Public Affairs may be found on the last page of this report. GAO staff who made major contributions to this reports are listed in appendix V.



Chelsa Gurkin
Director, International Affairs and Trade



Rebecca Gambler
Director, Homeland Security and Justice

List of Requesters

The Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian
Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues
Committee on Foreign Relations
United States Senate

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal
United States Senate

The Honorable Cory A. Booker
United States Senate

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
United States Senate

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senate

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
United States Senate

The Honorable Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senate

The Honorable Gary C. Peters
United States Senate

Appendix I: Objectives, Scope, and Methodology

Our objectives were to (1) describe Temporary Protected Status (TPS) determinations and numbers of beneficiaries since TPS was established in 1990; (2) describe the approach that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in consultation with the Department of State (State) and other relevant agencies, takes to inform the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS reviews; and (3) examine DHS's public communication regarding TPS decisions and related information, including work authorization.

To describe TPS determinations since TPS was established in 1990, we reviewed information and data in Federal Register notices for all TPS designations in fiscal years 1990 through 2019. Specifically, we reviewed the designation time frames and bases (i.e., ongoing armed conflict, environmental disaster, or extraordinary and temporary conditions) for each designation since TPS was established. We also analyzed U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) data on numbers of TPS beneficiaries for fiscal years 1990 through 2018. In addition, we analyzed USCIS data on TPS beneficiaries' characteristics, such as numbers, location, age, and gender of foreign nationals granted TPS, for fiscal year 2018.¹

To assess the reliability of USCIS data on TPS beneficiaries, we reviewed documentation and interviewed USCIS officials to identify and rectify any missing or erroneous data. According to USCIS officials, USCIS removes from its data on TPS beneficiaries any who become U.S. citizens or whose status is withdrawn, either because they no longer meet eligibility requirements or because they requested that USCIS withdraw their status. However, according to officials, the data may include foreign nationals who have since died, moved out of the country, or have an additional immigration status. Additionally, because the data comprise information provided by TPS applicants, the data may include a small number of applicant errors, according to officials. We determined that the data for fiscal years 2000 through 2018 were sufficiently reliable to provide general information about the size and characteristics of TPS

¹We selected this time period to include data on beneficiaries from the fiscal year when TPS was established through the most recent fiscal year for which data were available.

Appendix I: Objectives, Scope, and Methodology

beneficiaries.² USCIS was not able to provide reliable data on numbers of TPS beneficiaries before fiscal year 2000 because, according to USCIS officials, these data were not consistently entered electronically in USCIS information systems.

To describe the approach that DHS, in consultation with State and other relevant agencies, takes to inform the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS reviews, we reviewed provisions in the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) related to TPS as well as DHS and State documentation, such as informal guidance documents used since fiscal year 2014 or earlier regarding steps taken for a TPS review.³ We also conducted interviews with DHS and State officials related to the processes they have used to collect information for TPS reviews since fiscal year 2014. Specifically, we interviewed DHS officials from U.S. Customs and Border Protection; the U.S. Coast Guard; U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; the Management Directorate; the Office of the Executive Secretary; the Office of Intelligence and Analysis; the Office of Legislative Affairs; the Office of Partnership and Engagement; the Office of Public Affairs; the Office of Strategy, Policy, and Plans, including the Office of Immigration Statistics; and USCIS—in particular, USCIS's Office of Policy and Strategy and USCIS's Refugees, Asylum, and International Operations Directorate. We interviewed State officials from the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration and several regional bureaus, including desk officers from the Bureaus of African Affairs, Near Eastern Affairs, South and Central Asian Affairs, and Western Hemisphere Affairs. We also interviewed State

²USCIS also compiles estimates of expected TPS reregistrants based on reregistration trends; according to USCIS officials, these estimates help USCIS to forecast its budget. According to officials, USCIS recently stopped including expected TPS reregistration numbers in the Federal Register notices because the public found the data confusing. The officials added that the estimates could also be misleading depending on the circumstances, because, although the estimates are based largely on numbers of prior reregistrants, additional individuals from a country that is redesignated for TPS may be able to newly register for TPS. Therefore, we have not included USCIS data on expected TPS reregistrants in this report.

³We reviewed an internal template that USCIS's Refugee, Asylum and International Operations Directorate (RAIO) officials told us that they use as informal guidance for the draft country conditions reports that they compile for USCIS's Office of Policy & Strategy for reviews for initial or existing TPS designations. We did not assess the extent to which the RAIO country condition reports in our judgmental sample aligned with RAIO's internal template for these reports; rather, our methodology consisted of reviewing the reports in our sample to provide a general overview of the content and types of information included in each report.

Appendix I: Objectives, Scope, and Methodology

officials from overseas posts for countries that we selected for our review, including El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Sudan, and Yemen.⁴

We reviewed documentation that DHS and State provided for a judgmental, nongeneralizable sample of eight countries for which DHS rendered TPS decisions in fiscal years 2014 through 2018 (El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nepal, Nicaragua, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen); the TPS decisions for these eight countries represented 26 of a total of 42 TPS decisions for 13 countries in that period.⁵ We selected this sample to represent a range of decision types and designation reasons, among other factors. While this sample cannot be generalized to the countries or decisions we did not review, it provided valuable information about the approach that DHS uses for TPS reviews. The primary documents that we reviewed for each decision included information about country conditions that USCIS and State had compiled and recommendations that USCIS and State leadership had provided to the Secretary of Homeland Security. Some of the documents that we received had been redacted because of ongoing litigation related to TPS. Table 3 provides additional details of the decisions in our judgmental sample.

⁴We were not able to interview officials from the post in Nicaragua, because the mission had been evacuated after the latest TPS review and State officials informed us that those present at the post at the time of our review would not be able to respond to our questions. However, we were able to interview the regional bureau desk officer for Nicaragua, who was previously posted in Nicaragua during the latest TPS review for Nicaragua. In addition, regional bureau officials told us that State did not obtain country conditions information directly from the post for TPS reviews for Syria, because the embassy was closed due to hostilities in the country.

⁵Although we reviewed the approach that DHS takes to inform the Secretary of Homeland Security's TPS reviews, we did not review the Secretary of Homeland Security's decision-making for specific TPS decisions for the eight countries in our sample.

**Appendix I: Objectives, Scope, and
Methodology**

Table 3: Judgmental Sample of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Decisions

No.	Country	Decision type	Designation basis	Federal Register notice date
1	El Salvador	Extension	Environmental disaster	Jan. 7, 2015
2	El Salvador	Extension	Environmental disaster	July 8, 2016
3	El Salvador	Termination	Environmental disaster	Jan. 18, 2018
4	Haiti	Extension	Extraordinary and temporary conditions	Mar. 3, 2014
5	Haiti	Extension	Extraordinary and temporary conditions	Aug. 25, 2015
6	Haiti	Extension	Extraordinary and temporary conditions	May 24, 2017
7	Haiti	Termination	Extraordinary and temporary conditions	Jan. 18, 2018
8	Honduras	Extension	Environmental disaster	Oct. 16, 2014
9	Honduras	Extension	Environmental disaster	May 16, 2016
10	Honduras	Extension	Environmental disaster	Dec. 15, 2017
11	Honduras	Termination	Environmental disaster	June 5, 2018
12	Nepal	Designation	Environmental disaster	June 24, 2015
13	Nepal	Extension	Environmental disaster	Oct. 26, 2016
14	Nepal	Termination	Environmental disaster	May 22, 2018
15	Nicaragua	Extension	Environmental disaster	Oct. 16, 2014
16	Nicaragua	Extension	Environmental disaster	May 16, 2016
17	Nicaragua	Termination	Environmental disaster	Dec. 15, 2017
18	Sudan	Extension	Armed conflict; extraordinary and temporary conditions	Sept. 2, 2014
19	Sudan	Extension	Armed conflict; extraordinary and temporary conditions	Jan. 25, 2016
20	Sudan	Termination	Armed conflict; extraordinary and temporary conditions	Oct. 11, 2017
21	Syria	Extension, redesignation ^a	Armed conflict; extraordinary and temporary conditions	Jan. 5, 2015
22	Syria	Extension, redesignation	Armed conflict; extraordinary and temporary conditions	Aug. 1, 2016
23	Syria	Extension	Armed conflict; extraordinary and temporary conditions	Mar. 5, 2018
24	Yemen	Designation	Armed conflict	Sept. 3, 2015
25	Yemen	Extension, redesignation	Armed conflict; extraordinary and temporary conditions	Jan. 4, 2017
26	Yemen	Extension	Armed conflict; extraordinary and temporary conditions	Aug. 14, 2018

Source: GAO summary of information about our judgmental sample of TPS decisions. | GAO-20-134

^aAccording to USCIS officials, from 1997 through 2017, DHS used the term “redesignate” for instances in which the Secretary of Homeland Security newly designated a country for TPS after an initial designation or extension period. Beginning in 2018, DHS began using the term “newly designate” for these decisions. See 8 U.S.C. §1254a(b).

Appendix I: Objectives, Scope, and Methodology

In addition, we reviewed examples of other information that may be provided for a TPS review, including examples of input from other DHS components, other U.S. agencies, the White House, members of Congress, foreign governments, and nongovernmental organizations. Specifically, we received examples of this type of information for each of the eight countries in our judgmental, nongeneralizable sample, representing 15 of the 26 TPS decisions. For example, this information included immigration data and internal intelligence analyses compiled by DHS's Office of Immigration Statistics, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and Office of Intelligence and Analysis. We also reviewed examples of updates provided by senior Department of Defense officials for the Secretary of Homeland Security regarding the security situation in a country; technical input from the Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention about the status of an epidemic in a country; and information from the U.S. Agency for International Development about country conditions on the ground. In addition, we interviewed officials from these three agencies regarding the types of information that they may provide for TPS reviews. Further, we reviewed examples of letters from members of Congress, foreign government officials, and nongovernmental organizations related to TPS reviews. Moreover, we reviewed examples of briefing or meeting agendas and related materials for internal and external briefings, including external briefings with White House officials, foreign government officials, and nongovernmental organizations.

To examine DHS's public communication regarding TPS decisions and related information, including work authorization, we reviewed DHS's public communications related to TPS, including Federal Register notices, press releases, and USCIS's website, among other information. We analyzed information in Federal Register notices published from November 29, 1990, through October 1, 2019 (the most recent available at the time of our review), to determine the timing of notices for TPS decisions and the types of information included in the notices. We reviewed examples of USCIS's Office of Public Affairs guidance for public communication of TPS decisions. We also interviewed USCIS officials regarding the mechanisms that DHS used to communicate TPS decisions and related information, including DHS's process for drafting and publishing Federal Register notices.

Further, we examined DHS's guidance and procedures as of fiscal year 2019 for communicating TPS employment authorization, including automatic extensions of employment authorization. We reviewed USCIS's

Appendix I: Objectives, Scope, and Methodology

public communications related to automatic extensions of TPS employment authorization for both beneficiaries and employers in Federal Register notices, individually mailed notifications, an employer handbook, and information published on USCIS's website. We interviewed USCIS officials regarding USCIS's approach to communicating TPS employment authorization, including automatic extensions. We also reviewed information from the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division's website related to confusion over automatic extensions of employment authorization documents for TPS beneficiaries.⁶ Additionally, we reviewed a letter to USCIS signed by 70 law professors and scholars related to instances of employers terminating TPS beneficiaries.⁷ Finally, we compared DHS's guidance and procedures with federal internal control standards related to documenting policies and externally communicating information.⁸

We conducted this performance audit from September 2018 to March 2020 in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

⁶Department of Justice Civil Rights Division, "Telephone Interventions," accessed June 27, 2019, <https://www.justice.gov/crt/telephone-interventions-2>.

⁷Catholic Legal Immigration Network, letter to Secretary of DHS and Director of USCIS, November 18, 2018, accessed March 27, 2019, <https://cliniclegal.org/resources/humanitarian-relief/letter-70-law-professors-and-scholars-uscis-and-dhs-regarding-work>. We did not independently verify the issues cited in this letter.

⁸GAO, *Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government*, GAO-14-704G (Washington, D.C.: September 2014).

Appendix II: Numbers and Characteristics of Temporary Protected Status Beneficiaries, Fiscal Years 2000-2018

Table 4 lists the numbers of TPS beneficiaries, by country of citizenship, in fiscal years 2000 through 2018. During this period, the country with the largest number of TPS beneficiaries in any given fiscal year was El Salvador, with 262,262 in fiscal year 2010; followed by Honduras, with 85,759 in fiscal year 2007; and Haiti, with 58,294 in fiscal year 2014. In contrast, during the same period, Montserrat had the smallest maximum number of TPS beneficiaries in any given fiscal year, with a maximum of 21 in fiscal year 2004; followed by Angola, with a maximum of 47 in fiscal year 2002; and Burundi, with a maximum of 50 in fiscal year 2007.

Appendix II: Numbers and Characteristics of Temporary Protected Status Beneficiaries, Fiscal Years 2000-2018

Table 4: Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Beneficiaries, by Country of Citizenship, Fiscal Years 2000-2018

Year	Somalia	Monserat	Burundi	Sierra Leone	Sudan	Honduras	Nicaragua ^a	Angola	El Salvador	Haiti	South Sudan	Syria	Guinea	Liberia	Nepal	Yemen
2000	10	15	19	961	179	65,874	3,581	22	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2001	10	20	25	1,048	191	69,573	3,751	39	21,890	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2002	37	20	25	1,082	193	72,812	4,013	47	98,364	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2003	156	20	29	1,113	193	75,467	4,209	–	166,654	–	–	–	–	1,596	–	–
2004	167	21	29	–	192	78,183	4,433	–	225,301	–	–	–	–	1,959	–	–
2005	173	–	31	–	222	83,874	4,734	–	242,713	–	–	–	–	2,081	–	–
2006	385	–	49	–	603	85,414	4,850	–	252,786	–	–	–	–	4,474	–	–
2007	408	–	50	–	637	85,759	4,910	–	257,345	–	–	–	–	4,508	–	–
2008	414	–	49	–	645	85,461	4,935	–	261,181	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2009	421	–	–	–	658	85,101	4,970	–	262,006	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
2010	440	–	–	–	668	85,150	4,966	–	262,262	42,132	–	–	–	–	–	–
2011	440	–	–	–	659	84,498	4,925	–	261,227	48,695	–	–	–	–	–	–
2012	436	–	–	–	659	84,005	4,891	–	260,476	58,031	1	177	–	–	–	–
2013	461	–	–	–	682	83,747	4,850	–	259,926	58,232	3	2,036	–	–	–	–
2014	479	–	–	–	829	83,049	4,790	–	258,071	58,294	20	4,471	–	–	–	–
2015	476	–	–	840	834	82,515	4,730	–	256,631	57,987	26	4,830	542	1,612	1,085	–
2016	480	–	–	1,256	830	81,635	4,657	–	253,619	57,638	42	6,008	1,013	2,303	12,139	780
2017	477	–	–	–	829	80,637	4,567	–	250,932	57,152	74	6,831	–	–	14,516	1,090
2018	463	–	–	–	804	80,748	4,524	–	251,664	56,455	83	7,009	–	–	14,578	1,464

Legend: – = no TPS beneficiaries.

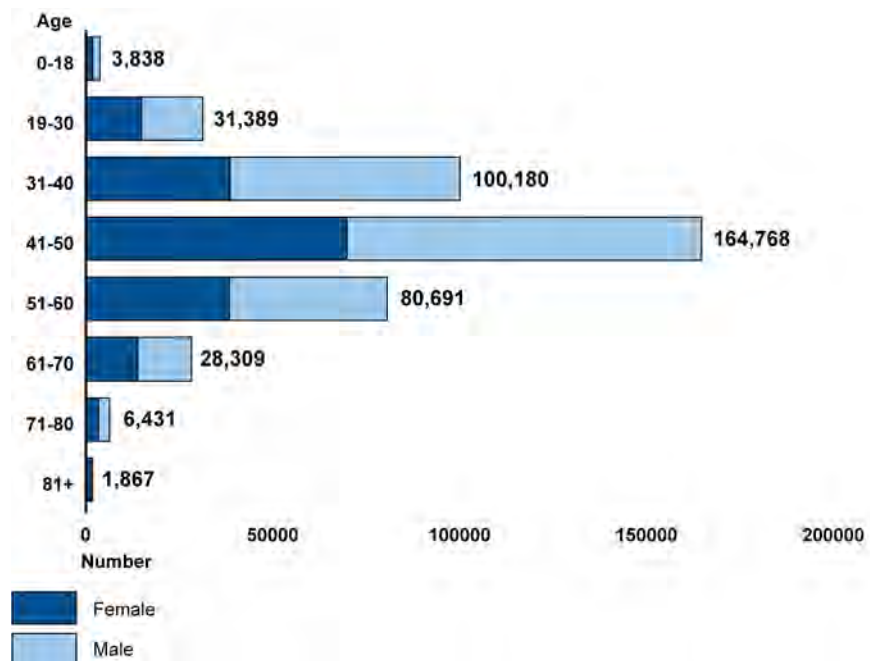
Source: GAO analysis of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services data. | GAO-20-134

Notes: The data shown for each fiscal year represent eligible foreign nationals who were granted TPS and whose status was valid as of September 30 of that fiscal year. According to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services officials, foreign nationals granted TPS may be included in the data for multiple fiscal years as long as they maintain valid status. Officials noted that, depending on the population size, it may take USCIS years to adjudicate all applications for TPS from nationals of a given country. Therefore, numbers of TPS beneficiaries may continue to increase after the established registration period for a specific designation. The data shown may also include some eligible foreign nationals who have an additional immigration status as well as some who have left the United States or died, according to USCIS officials. USCIS officials noted that TPS beneficiaries who become U.S. citizens or whose status is withdrawn, either because they no longer meet eligibility requirements or because they requested that USCIS withdraw their status, are removed from the data in the fiscal year that their status changes. According to USCIS officials, data for TPS beneficiaries were not consistently entered electronically in USCIS's information system before fiscal year 2000. As a result, we determined that USCIS data on numbers of TPS beneficiaries before fiscal year 2000 were not sufficiently reliable for our purposes.

Appendix II: Numbers and Characteristics of Temporary Protected Status Beneficiaries, Fiscal Years 2000-2018

Figure 9 presents the ages and genders of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) beneficiaries in fiscal year 2018, based on U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services information and data. The majority of TPS beneficiaries in fiscal year 2018 were 31 to 50 years of age (62 percent) and male (55 percent).

Figure 9: Age and Gender of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Beneficiaries, Fiscal Year 2018



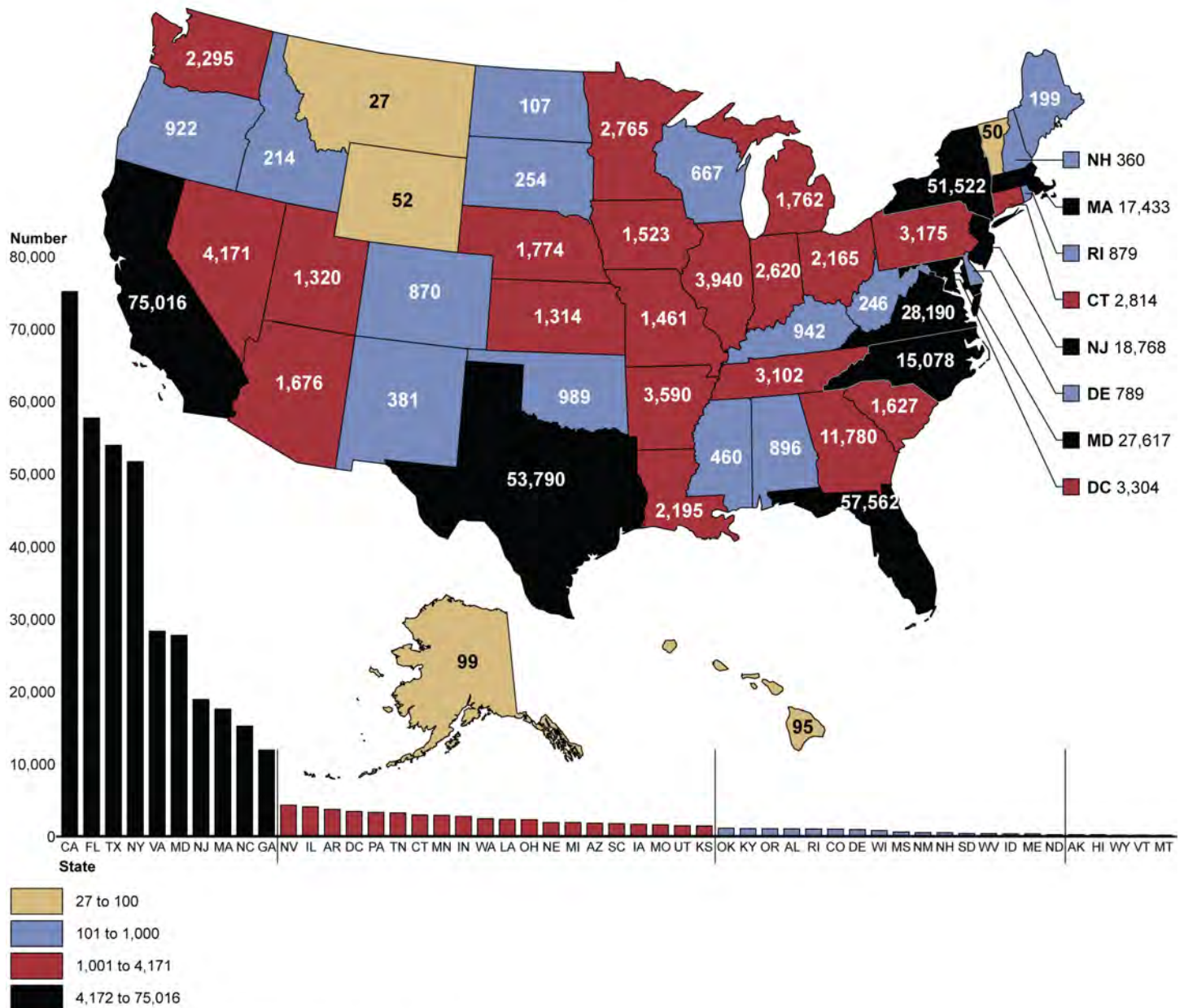
Source: GAO analysis of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services data. | GAO-20-134

Note: The data shown represent foreign nationals who were granted TPS as of September 30, 2018. According to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), data are self-reported by Temporary Protected Status beneficiaries and may therefore include a small number of records with applicant error. As a result, the data shown do not sum precisely to the total number of TPS beneficiaries in fiscal year 2018 (417,792). According to USCIS officials, data may include some eligible foreign nationals who have an additional immigration status as well as some who have left the United States or died.

Figure 10 shows the location, by state of residency, of TPS beneficiaries in fiscal year 2018. TPS beneficiaries resided in all 50 states and the District of Columbia in fiscal year 2018, with the highest populations in California, Florida, Texas, and New York.

Appendix II: Numbers and Characteristics of Temporary Protected Status Beneficiaries, Fiscal Years 2000-2018

Figure 10: Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Beneficiaries, by State of Residency, Fiscal Year 2018



Source: GAO analysis of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services data. | GAO-20-134

Note: The data shown reflect addresses in U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' (USCIS) information system at the time of the most recently approved TPS applications for eligible foreign nationals who were granted TPS as of September 30, 2018. According to USCIS officials, the data do not reflect any address changes after the most recently approved application. The data shown are

**Appendix II: Numbers and Characteristics of Temporary
Protected Status Beneficiaries, Fiscal Years 2000-2018**

self-reported by TPS beneficiaries and therefore may include a small number of records with applicant error, according to USCIS officials. Additionally, the data do not reflect TPS beneficiaries residing in U.S. territories or serving in the U.S. armed forces. As a result, the data shown do not sum precisely to the total number of TPS beneficiaries in fiscal year 2018 (417,792). According to officials, the data may include some eligible foreign nationals who have an additional immigration status as well as some who have left the United States or died.

Appendix III: Comments from Department of Homeland Security



March 6, 2020

Chelsa Gurkin
Director, International Affairs and Trade
U.S. Government Accountability Office
441 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20548

Rebecca Gambler
Director, Homeland Security and Justice
U.S. Government Accountability Office
441 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20548

Re: Management Response to Draft Report GAO-20-134, "TEMPORARY
PROTECTED STATUS: Steps Taken to Inform and Communicate Secretary of
Homeland Security's Decisions"

Dear Ms. Gurkin and Ms. Gambler:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this draft report. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) appreciates the U.S. Government Accountability Office's (GAO) work in planning and conducting its review and issuing this report.

The Department is pleased to note GAO's (1) reporting of DHS's decision-making process for determining whether to designate, extend, or terminate a foreign state's designation for Temporary Protected Status (TPS), and (2) recognition that DHS communicates all TPS decisions to the public through required Federal Register notices and other mechanisms, such as website postings. DHS remains committed to making all TPS determinations in full compliance with the law.

The draft report contained one recommendation with which the Department concurs. Attached find our detailed response to the recommendation. DHS previously submitted technical comments under a separate cover for GAO's consideration.

Appendix III: Comments from Department of
Homeland Security

Again, thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this draft report. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. We look forward to working with you again in the future.

Sincerely,



JIM H. CRUMPACKER, CIA, CFE
Director
Departmental GAO-OIG Liaison Office

Attachment

Appendix III: Comments from Department of
Homeland Security

**Attachment: Management Response to Recommendation
Contained in GAO-20-134**

GAO recommended that the Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS):

Recommendation 1: Update published guidance, such as Handbook for Employers: Guidance for Completing Form I-9 (M-274), to consistently identify each of the official mechanisms that USCIS may use to communicate automatic extensions of TPS employment authorization documents.

Response: Concur. USCIS's Immigration Records and Identity Services Directorate (IRIS)-Verification Division is currently revising the M-274. The revised M-274 will provide additional information on completing the Employment Eligibility Verification (Form I-9) for TPS beneficiaries. Specifically, these revisions will include additional subsections of instructions for completing Form I-9 when a TPS beneficiary's Employment Authorization Document (EAD) is automatically extended by a Federal Register notice and/or a TPS beneficiary receives a Notice of Action, Form I-797C, automatically extending their expired EAD after applying for a new EAD. Also, the IRIS-Verification Division will revise TPS guidance on I-9 Central, the online Form I-9 resource center, to reflect the information added to the M-274. Estimated Completion Date: April 30, 2020.

Appendix IV: Comments from U.S. Agency for International Development



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

MAR 10 2020

Thomas Melito
Managing Director, International Affairs and Trade
U.S. Government Accountability Office
441 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20226

Re: TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS – Steps Taken to Inform and Communicate
Secretary of Homeland Security's Decisions (GAO-20-134)

Dear Mr. Melito:

Thank you for providing the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) with an opportunity to review and comment on the draft report produced by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) titled, *Temporary Protected Status: Steps Taken to Inform and Communicate Secretary of Homeland Security's Decisions* (GAO-20-134). USAID does not have any comments on the draft report.

In this engagement, the GAO reviewed the internal decision-making process at the U.S. Department of State for designating and/or extending Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for select nationalities. The GAO also reviewed the State Department's process for seeking input for the review of TPS by the Secretary for Homeland Security. USAID is not involved in the decision-making process for TPS designations; however, the State Department might ask the Agency to provide information gathered "on the ground" or from publicly available sources.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the draft report.

Sincerely,

Frederick M. Nutt
Assistant Administrator,
Bureau for Management

Enclosure: a/s

Appendix V: GAO Contacts and Staff Acknowledgments

GAO Contacts

Chelsa Gurkin, (202) 512-2964 or GurkinC@gao.gov

Rebecca Gambler, (202) 512-6912 or GamblerR@gao.gov

Staff Acknowledgments

In addition to the contacts named above, Miriam Carroll Fenton and Taylor Matheson (Assistant Directors), Elisabeth Helmer, Cristina Norland, Ben DeYoung, Martin De Alteriis, Neil Doherty, Jenny Grover, Reid Lowe, Mary Moutsos, Jan Montgomery, Jon Najmi, Nicole Willems, and Bailey Wong made key contributions to this report. Alana Miller and Danielle Rudstein provided technical assistance.

GAO's Mission

The Government Accountability Office, the audit, evaluation, and investigative arm of Congress, exists to support Congress in meeting its constitutional responsibilities and to help improve the performance and accountability of the federal government for the American people. GAO examines the use of public funds; evaluates federal programs and policies; and provides analyses, recommendations, and other assistance to help Congress make informed oversight, policy, and funding decisions. GAO's commitment to good government is reflected in its core values of accountability, integrity, and reliability.

Obtaining Copies of GAO Reports and Testimony

The fastest and easiest way to obtain copies of GAO documents at no cost is through our website. Each weekday afternoon, GAO posts on its [website](#) newly released reports, testimony, and correspondence. You can also [subscribe](#) to GAO's email updates to receive notification of newly posted products.

Order by Phone

The price of each GAO publication reflects GAO's actual cost of production and distribution and depends on the number of pages in the publication and whether the publication is printed in color or black and white. Pricing and ordering information is posted on GAO's website, <https://www.gao.gov/ordering.htm>.

Place orders by calling (202) 512-6000, toll free (866) 801-7077, or TDD (202) 512-2537.

Orders may be paid for using American Express, Discover Card, MasterCard, Visa, check, or money order. Call for additional information.

Connect with GAO

Connect with GAO on [Facebook](#), [Flickr](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).
Subscribe to our [RSS Feeds](#) or [Email Updates](#). Listen to our [Podcasts](#).
Visit GAO on the web at <https://www.gao.gov>.

To Report Fraud, Waste, and Abuse in Federal Programs

Contact FraudNet:

Website: <https://www.gao.gov/fraudnet/fraudnet.htm>

Automated answering system: (800) 424-5454 or (202) 512-7700

Congressional Relations

Orice Williams Brown, Managing Director, WilliamsO@gao.gov, (202) 512-4400, U.S. Government Accountability Office, 441 G Street NW, Room 7125, Washington, DC 20548

Public Affairs

Chuck Young, Managing Director, youngc1@gao.gov, (202) 512-4800 U.S. Government Accountability Office, 441 G Street NW, Room 7149 Washington, DC 20548

Strategic Planning and External Liaison

James-Christian Blockwood, Managing Director, spel@gao.gov, (202) 512-4707 U.S. Government Accountability Office, 441 G Street NW, Room 7814, Washington, DC 20548



Exhibit 17

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

January 15, 2025

Confirmation Hearing of Homeland Security

Secretary Nominee Gov. Kristi Noem

Page 1

<p>1 SENATOR PAUL: ... that the department 2 and its components engage in. In other words, we 3 do so much stuff and we're so big we can't 4 describe it for you. But if we can't describe 5 what we have, we got a problem. In plain 6 language, the DHS had really no idea. Think 7 about it. An agency commanding over \$110 billion 8 annually can't account for its own activities. 9 This is not just bureaucratic incompetence, it's 10 emblematic of a deeper issue, an agency unsure of 11 its own boundaries and commitments. How can an 12 agency fulfill its mission or earn the American 13 people's trust if it doesn't even know the extent 14 of its own operations? 15 But the problems don't stop there. 16 Instead of focusing on critical threats like 17 securing the southwest border, DHS has shifted 18 its gaze inward, targeting law-abiding Americans. 19 DHS, under the Biden administration, has often 20 used its vast powers to target Americans 21 exercising their constitutional rights. It's 22 become an agency more focused on policing speech, 23 monitoring social media, and labeling political 24 dissent as "domestic terrorism" than addressing 25 genuine security threats. While cartels traffic</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p>	<p>1 liberty hand in hand, not at odds with each 2 other. 3 Today we gather to consider the 4 nomination of Governor Kristi Noem to serve as 5 the Secretary of Department of Homeland Security. 6 I hope this hearing will set the tone for this 7 committee's work in the new Congress to restore 8 transparency and accountability to an executive 9 branch that has grown unchecked. Governor Noem, 10 if confirmed, you will lead an agency that has 11 lost its way. Your record as governor of South 12 Dakota and a former member of Congress 13 demonstrates your willingness to make difficult 14 decisions in the face of significant political 15 pressure, and to put the interest of American 16 people first. You have the opportunity today to 17 address how your background and vision will 18 translate to leading one of the most critical and 19 scrutinized departments in the federal 20 government. 21 This is the first of many consequential 22 moments for this committee as we renew our 23 commitment to the constitutional oversight role 24 that Congress must assert. I have no doubt that 25 the nominee we'll consider in the coming weeks</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p>
<p>1 people and fentanyl across an unguarded border, 2 DHS has spent its time and resources creating 3 partisan disinformation boards, spying on 4 Americans through invasive surveillance 5 technologies. The mission drift is dangerous. 6 Every dollar spent monitoring law-abiding 7 citizens is a dollar not spent securing the 8 homeland. Every moment spent targeting political 9 opponents is a moment not addressing real threats 10 like border security, cyber-attacks, or the 11 rising influence of adversarial nation states. 12 The priorities of DHS have been deeply distorted, 13 and the American people are paying the price. 14 And what about DHS's response to COVID- 15 19, arguably one of the greatest threats to 16 homeland security? The answer is clear: 17 nothing. They knew nothing of the origins, they 18 didn't study the issue, and they had no 19 information about gain-of-function research. 20 We've seen firsthand how unchecked government 21 overreach leads to waste, fraud, and abuse. We 22 cannot let DHS become yet another agency that 23 operates behind a veil of secrecy. The American 24 people deserve transparency, accountability, and 25 leadership that puts national security and</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p>	<p>1 and months that you will be up for the challenge. 2 Governor Noem, thank you for your willingness to 3 serve, and I yield to the Ranking Member for his 4 opening remarks. 5 SENATOR PETERS: Thank you, Chairman 6 Paul. Governor Noem, it's great to see you here 7 today, and I want to first thank you for making 8 yourself available not only to the entire 9 committee, but to the discussions that we had in 10 my office. Going perhaps a little more in-depth 11 on the issues than is possible in a hearing like 12 this and having that open and frank conversation 13 is something that I appreciate. Also appreciate 14 your willingness to spend time with committee 15 staff as we conduct our due diligence and review 16 of your qualifications and the background to 17 serve as secretary of the Department of Homeland 18 Security. 19 As our third-largest federal agency, 20 with more than 240,000 employees and an operating 21 budget of more than \$100 billion, the Department 22 of Homeland Security requires strong, stable, and 23 principled leadership. Our nation faces serious 24 threats and security challenges, from securing 25 our borders and combating terrorism to preventing</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p>

<p>1 cyber-attacks and responding to our nation's 2 increasing number of natural disasters, and DHS 3 is the first line of defense in all of those 4 areas. I appreciated the conversations we had at 5 today's hearing, where we discussed the 6 importance of ensuring that our nation's borders 7 are safe and secure. And while we must address 8 the significant challenges we face on the 9 southern border, we also need to ensure that 10 there are sufficient resources to secure our 11 northern border, something I know you're very 12 familiar with as the governor of your state, 13 including building out our Northern Border 14 Mission Center.</p> <p>15 This is especially important in my home 16 state of Michigan, which has two of the nation's 17 busiest border crossings, and we're going to be 18 adding another span shortly, the Gordie Howe 19 International Bridge, which will open later this 20 year. To facilitate the lawful trade and travel 21 out those ports of entry that are absolutely 22 critical to our economy, I've worked on 23 legislation to hire additional U.S. Customs and 24 Border Protection officers to meet increased 25 staffing demands. We must secure our borders,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p>	<p>1 companies. There's no question that DHS must 2 continue to lead the way in protecting our 3 networks from foreign adversaries, cyber 4 criminals, and so-called "hacktivists" to prevent 5 cyber-attacks from becoming increasingly 6 devastating to our security as well as to our 7 economy.</p> <p>8 And finally, the Department of Federal 9 Emergency Management Agency must continue to work 10 hard to address the increasing number of natural 11 disasters affecting our communities as a result 12 of climate change. From violent storms like 13 hurricanes that brought destruction to states 14 across the South, to the devastating wildfires in 15 California, and countless other severe storms and 16 flooding events all across our country, we need 17 leadership at the department that will ensure our 18 nation effectively responds to communities when 19 disaster strikes them.</p> <p>20 The safety and security of our nation 21 and the American people depend on the 22 department's ability to effectively address these 23 wide-ranging threats. So, Governor Noem, thank 24 you again for your willingness to serve in this 25 incredibly important position, and thank you for</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p>
<p>1 but we also know it is well time passed to 2 streamline our immigration and our asylum process 3 as well.</p> <p>4 In addition to border security, DHS is 5 responsible for addressing many threats that face 6 our nation. Just a few weeks ago, unfortunately, 7 Americans were shocked to see two horrific 8 incidents in New Orleans and Las Vegas, a deadly 9 reminder that terrorism and radicalization remain 10 very real and ongoing threats to our homeland. 11 In my role on this committee, I've made combating 12 foreign and domestic terrorism, as well as 13 extremism, a top priority. In this complex 14 environment, it is essential that DHS continue to 15 focus on all terrorism threats, track, and report 16 data to Congress and to the American people, and 17 coordinate between all components to ensure the 18 department is effectively addressing all types of 19 terrorist threats.</p> <p>20 We've also seen that persistent cyber- 21 attacks are still a very serious threat. In 22 fact, an increasing threat. A recent attack from 23 Chinese-based hackers infiltrated the Treasury 24 Department, on top of ongoing Salt Typhoon hack 25 that comprised numerous U.S. telecommunications</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p>	<p>1 being here today. I look forward to having a 2 comprehensive discussion about how you intend to 3 lead this critical department through a series of 4 national security challenges, if indeed you are 5 confirmed.</p> <p>6 SENATOR PAUL: This morning, Governor 7 Noem will be introduced by Majority Leader John 8 Thune and Senator Kevin Cramer. Senator Thune, 9 you're recognized.</p> <p>10 SENATOR THUNE: Thank you, Mr. 11 Chairman, and Ranking Member Peters, and members 12 of the committee. I'm very pleased to be able to 13 be here today to introduce South Dakota's 14 outstanding governor who has been nominated by 15 President Trump to serve as the Secretary of the 16 Department of Homeland Security. I've known 17 Kristi Noem for a long time. She has a very 18 compelling personal and family story, which 19 inspired her entrance into the public arena, and 20 I'm sure you'll hear a little bit more about that 21 from her. But I've observed as she has gone 22 through the state legislature as a leader there, 23 state House of Representatives, the U.S. House of 24 Representatives, where she was our only member 25 from South Dakota representing our state's</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p>

<p>1 interests there for eight years, and now 2 currently as South Dakota's governor, and I think 3 she brings to this job a number of things that 4 are going to be really essential. 5 And one is obviously a skill set when 6 it comes to managing hard problems. She led our 7 state through the pandemic, managed what were 8 extraordinary circumstances all across this 9 country in a way that made South Dakota, frankly, 10 a magnet for people from other states who were 11 trying to flee or get away from some of the 12 heavy-handed requirements that were imposed in 13 other states around the country. Our state 14 stayed open, stayed free, and that was largely 15 due to her leadership. 16 And I would say too, as we tackle what 17 is an enormously complicated and hard issue, 18 which is our southern border, it's going to 19 require a skill set which I believe she 20 possesses, it's going to require a tremendous 21 amount of persistence and determination, which I 22 think she has, an enormous amount of energy, 23 which she has in abundance. And frankly, what I 24 would say is just absolute toughness. It's going 25 to take some tough and hard leadership to get</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p>	<p>1 of the Department of Homeland Security. Thank 2 you, Mr. Chairman. 3 SENATOR PAUL: Senator Cramer? 4 SENATOR CRAMER: Thank you, Chairman 5 Paul, Ranking Member Peters, colleagues. Once 6 again, I find myself in full agreement with the 7 majority leader. It's a good place to be in our 8 business. 9 So, this is a very special opportunity 10 for me, and first thing I want to do is thank 11 nearly all of you. I got into almost every one 12 of your offices with Kristi as her very 13 amateurish sitting Senator Sherpa. And the 14 blessing for me was not only to be with my good 15 friend and former colleague, but to learn a lot 16 about this committee that I'm not on and to get 17 an inside view. And Gary, especially learning 18 how we can work together at the northern border 19 and how similar, although very different, 20 Michigan and North Dakota are. So, thank you for 21 your hospitality, you were all very kind to 22 Kristi and to me. 23 But Kristi is a former colleague. When 24 you're the only member of a body of 435 from an 25 entire state, it's really important to have</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p>
<p>1 things back in order. 2 And I want to refer to something she 3 said in her state of the state address earlier 4 this week to South Dakotans, and that is that 5 "Over the past four years, we've seen a complete 6 disregard for the security of our borders and the 7 safety of the American people, to say nothing for 8 the rule of law. Chaos at our southern border 9 and the Biden administration has left our country 10 vulnerable to a whole host of security concerns, 11 from terrorist entries to cross-border criminal 12 activity like drug trafficking." I think it's 13 well documented, and I think it's high time that 14 it gets fixed, and we have somebody nominated by 15 the President that I believe has the 16 capabilities, the qualities, the experience, and 17 again, frankly, the determination and toughness 18 to solve what is a very, very tough issue, and 19 one which is desperately in need of solutions. 20 So, I'm pleased to be able to be here 21 today to introduce our great governor and to 22 thank you for your consideration. I look forward 23 to this committee acting on her nomination, and I 24 look forward to voting for her on the floor of 25 the United States Senate to be the next Secretary</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p>	<p>1 friends. So, together, Kristi and I were two, 2 two out of 435, and if we could get Montana, 3 Wyoming, and Alaska, there'd be five of us that 4 could take on the fight. But I know this. I 5 remember our very first year, my first year, it 6 was not hers, my first year in the House, the 7 unthinkable happened, and the House of 8 Representatives failed to pass a farm bill. And 9 all I can tell you was the least secure homeland 10 person in America was the Speaker of the House 11 and the Majority Leader the next day, when Kristi 12 and I doubled up, and eventually we got a farm 13 bill done. 14 I say that because we are living at a 15 time, and Senator Peters, you used the words 16 "strong, stable, and principled". I can't think 17 of three better words to describe Kristi Noem 18 than those three words. I would add this. I'm 19 not surprised that President Trump turned to 20 Governor Noem. Securing the homeland is the 21 number one priority, our number one priority, our 22 number one constitutional priority, as a 23 Congress. And it is for sure the number one 24 priority of the voters in the last election. And 25 it is the number one priority for President</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p>

<p>1 Donald Trump. So, naturally he would say, "Hmm, 2 who is the toughest, smartest, most capable 3 protector that I know? I think I'd like to find 4 a ranch woman, mom, grandmother, who knows how to 5 protect her own." And when you grow up on a 6 ranch in the prairies or the West, nobody else is 7 going to look out for your critters. No one else 8 is protecting your family. You do it. 9 And she brings this skill set, as 10 Senator Thune said, as a leader, as a legislator, 11 as a member of Congress, as a governor, a very 12 important... By the way, when I get into the room 13 with other governors, Senator Hassan, I might as 14 well have just left, because I was not part of a 15 club where I don't belong. But anyway, it was 16 very, very rich, because there's an alliance 17 there that's really, really important. And so, 18 for me, it's just a really special opportunity to 19 be able to be here with her and to have had this 20 time in your offices introducing her to you. 21 But I want to wrap up with this, 22 because last night I received a very touching 23 letter, unsolicited by either Kristi or me, from 24 the tribal chairwoman from the Standing Rock 25 Sioux Tribe, which straddles North Dakota and</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p>	<p>1 to support her and turn it over to her. 2 SENATOR PAUL: Thank you for those 3 great introductions. The committee has also 4 received several statements in support of 5 Governor Noem's nomination, including a letter 6 from 22 fellow governors, the International 7 Association of Firefighters, and six other 8 organizations. Without objection, these letters 9 of support will be made part of the hearing 10 record. And I know our Senators are going to 11 have to go but thank you for coming and doing 12 those introductions. 13 It's the practice of this committee to 14 swear in the witnesses. Governor Noem, please 15 stand and raise your right hand. Do you swear 16 that the testimony you will give before this 17 committee will be the truth, the whole truth, and 18 nothing but the truth, so help you God? 19 GOVERNOR NOEM: I will. 20 SENATOR PAUL: Governor Noem, you are 21 now recognized for your opening statement. 22 GOVERNOR NOEM: Thank you, and good 23 morning, Chairman Paul, Ranking Member Peters, 24 and the distinguished members of this committee. 25 I'm honored to appear before all of you today as</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p>
<p>1 South Dakota. They don't really care who wins 2 the South Dakota State/North Dakota State 3 football game, but they do care about their 4 reservation. And Chairwoman Alkire sent me this 5 letter. Standing Rock is the home of Sitting 6 Bull in case you were wondering about the 7 credentials of their ability to protect the 8 homeland. 9 I'll just read a few words. "On 10 multiple occasions, Governor Noem has invited the 11 Standing Rock Sioux Tribe to her table at the 12 South Dakota State Capitol to enter into 13 meaningful discussions." That's what I witnessed 14 when she came to your offices. And Janet writes, 15 "It is of great excitement and enthusiasm that 16 our North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum will be at 17 the helm of the Department of Interior, and my 18 hopes remain high that you will feel the same 19 about Governor Kristi Noem at the helm of the 20 Department of Homeland Security. These two 21 governors understand the needs in Indian country, 22 and what words like tribal sovereignty, 23 jurisdiction, and consultation mean to the 24 Indigenous people." Speaks volumes to her 25 leadership and to her character. It's my honor</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p>	<p>1 the nominee for the Secretary of Homeland 2 Security. I want to thank President-elect Donald 3 J. Trump for his confidence in my leadership, and 4 the people of South Dakota for their fantastic 5 support throughout my time in public service. I 6 would also like to express my sincere gratitude 7 to Senator Cramer. He has been an invaluable 8 resource to me throughout this process, and given 9 me much wisdom, as well as insight, into the 10 thoughts and the procedures of the Senate and 11 this body. And I'd also like to express my 12 gratitude to Senator Thune, the Majority Leader 13 of this esteemed body. He's been an advisor to 14 me for many years, as well as a friend, and I'm 15 so grateful for the generous support of these two 16 men and their willingness to be here this morning 17 to speak on my behalf, and to introduce me to 18 this committee. 19 Now, I'm a wife and a mother and a 20 grandmother; a farmer, rancher, businessperson. 21 I've served in our state legislature, in Congress 22 for eight years, and also a governor. I've spent 23 my entire life in rural America. I understand 24 what it means to work hard every single day, and 25 to build a better future for your kids and for</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p>

<p>1 all of our communities. I come before you today 2 with a deep sense of responsibility and a 3 humility, as the nominee, to lead the Department 4 of Homeland Security, and also a commitment to 5 the more than 330 Americans who we will work 6 together to help serve and to keep safe and 7 secure in their homes and in their communities. 8 Now, before I proceed, I want to 9 introduce to you my husband, Bryon, who's here 10 with me today. He is my constant 24/7 reminder 11 of our dedication to public service, and that 12 it's not a solo effort or done alone. He has 13 been a rock by my side, and I appreciate all of 14 his love over so many years. I'm grateful that 15 he's here with me today. 16 Now, securing our homeland is a 17 serious, sacred trust that must be relentlessly 18 pursued, and can never be taken for granted. 19 Being safe within our borders here in America is 20 critical, and yet Americans feel less safe than 21 they have felt in decades. For the first time in 22 30 years, more than 40 percent of Americans are 23 afraid to walk alone at night within a mile of 24 their homes. President-elect Trump is going to 25 change that. I've seen firsthand the challenges</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 18</p>	<p>1 leading the Department of Homeland Security. 2 As we face the evolving threats of the 3 21st century, the mission and the success of DHS 4 is more critical than ever. We must be vigilant 5 and proactive and innovative to protect the 6 homeland. The challenges in front of us are 7 extremely significant, and we must secure our 8 borders against illegal trafficking and 9 immigration. We must safeguard our critical 10 infrastructure to make sure that we're protected 11 against cyber-attacks, respond to natural 12 disasters, and also terrorism. I firmly believe 13 that we can meet those challenges head on with 14 resolve. Innovation, we can use collaboration 15 with federal and with state partners. And 16 Senators, I want your input. Border security 17 must remain a top priority. As a nation, we have 18 the right and the responsibility to secure our 19 borders against those who would do us harm, and 20 we must create a fair and a lawful immigration 21 system that is efficient, and is effective, and 22 that reflects our values. 23 President Trump was elected with a 24 clear mandate. He needs to achieve this mission, 25 because two-thirds of Americans support his</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p>
<p>1 and the opportunities facing our great nation. 2 In the 20 years since the Department of Homeland 3 Security was formed, the nature of the threats to 4 our homeland has grown and they've evolved. This 5 department was created in response to the 6 failures of the government that led to the 7 September 11th 2001 terrorist attacks, and that 8 reality is not lost on me, especially in the wake 9 of the recent terrorist attacks over New Year's. 10 Now, I've led South Dakota for the last 11 six years, with a focus every day on making our 12 state safer, stronger, and freer. I've focused 13 every day on making the best decisions, not just 14 for right now, but for generations to come. I've 15 overseen a state budget of over \$7 billion, and a 16 state employee workforce of more than 13,000, 17 including more than 7,000 that report directly to 18 the governor. I've addressed important issues 19 like cyber security, human trafficking, drug 20 interdiction, and also natural disasters, the 21 same challenges that are facing so many of you 22 and the people that you represent back home. 23 I've secured our state and supported the rule of 24 law, and if confirmed as the eighth secretary, 25 that is the same approach that I will take to</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p>	<p>1 immigration and border policies, including the 2 majority of Hispanic Americans. I was the first 3 governor to send National Guard troops to our 4 southern border when Texas asked for help and 5 when they were being overwhelmed by an 6 unprecedented border crisis. If confirmed as 7 secretary, I'll ensure that our exceptional, 8 extraordinary Border Patrol agents have all the 9 tools and resources and support that they need to 10 carry out their mission effectively. The same is 11 true of my commitment to the outstanding men and 12 women of the U.S. Immigration and Customs 13 Enforcement. They are responsible for 14 apprehending, detaining, and deporting illegal 15 immigrants, and getting criminal aliens off of 16 our streets and out of the country will help 17 American communities be safer again. The bravery 18 and the dedication of the Border Patrol and ICE 19 are unmatched, and I will restore dignity to 20 their work. The rising threat of cyberattacks 21 also demands our utmost attention, and our 22 critical infrastructure, from energy grids to 23 financial institutions, is under constant attack 24 by foreign adversaries and criminal actors. As 25 secretary, I will prioritize a comprehensive,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p>

<p>1 whole-of-government approach to cybersecurity. 2 In fact, in the coming days, we have to plan 3 bigger and think faster and smarter. I fully 4 acknowledge that people in Washington D.C. do not 5 have all of the answers, and therefore, I will 6 leverage private-public partnerships, I'll 7 advance cutting-edge, state-of-the-art 8 technologies to protect our nation's digital 9 landscape, and I will have a proven track record 10 of doing this in South Dakota to back me up. 11 I've helped make Dakota State University a global 12 leader in cybersecurity education, because we 13 recognize the need to address this emerging 14 threat. And I will take a proactive approach if 15 given the opportunity to serve as secretary. 16 Now, President-elect Trump has been a tremendous 17 friend to law enforcement over the years, and I 18 will do the same in my role as secretary. As 19 governor, I've worked closely with law 20 enforcement to make South Dakota safer. I've 21 overseen hundreds of state troopers in the South 22 Dakota Highway Patrol, and on several occasions, 23 I've convened groups of law enforcement from 24 across our state to address policies that will 25 make our people safer. In fact, while some in</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p>	<p>1 homeland security isn't just about prevention, 2 but it's also about resilience. When disasters 3 strike, as we know they will, the Department of 4 Homeland Security must be ready to respond 5 swiftly, efficiently, and effectively to protect 6 the lives and the property of Americans. As 7 governor, I've worked with FEMA in response to a 8 dozen natural disasters in South Dakota. These 9 have included historic floods, tornadoes, 10 blizzards, wildfires, a derecho, and even a 11 global pandemic. As secretary, I will enhance 12 our emergency preparedness and strengthen FEMA's 13 capabilities, and we will ensure that no 14 community is left behind, and that life-saving 15 services, like electricity and water, are quickly 16 restored. 17 As secretary, I will oversee the Secret 18 Service, an agency that is in serious need of 19 reforms. We all saw the threats to President- 20 elect Trump last year and the consequences of 21 failure. Now, that should never happen again, 22 and I've worked closely with my own gubernatorial 23 protective detail, and I'm familiar with what 24 works and what doesn't work, and I'll bring that 25 experience towards strengthening the Secret</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p>
<p>1 this country were attacking law enforcement and 2 defunding them, we took the opposite approach in 3 South Dakota. We recruited law enforcement 4 officers to move to South Dakota, a state that 5 respects their service and their sacrifice, and 6 we revamped our law enforcement training to 7 provide the first ever state-led tribal-focused 8 law enforcement training academy. I'm very proud 9 of the work that we've done in cooperation with 10 our tribes to help make their communities more 11 safe. 12 And we must remain vigilant against 13 terrorism and against others who wish to do us 14 harm to our country and to our great people. 15 I'll ensure that our intelligence and our law 16 enforcement agencies are working together hand- 17 in-hand, that they're fully equipped to detect, 18 prevent, and respond to threats from radical 19 ideologies and foreign adversaries. This 20 requires resources, coordination, and 21 collaboration across all levels of government. 22 And once again, I will seek your wisdom, and I 23 will seek your input into the months ahead. For 24 the sake of the people that we both represent, we 25 have to get this right. Now, I recognize that</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p>	<p>1 Service once again. 2 I'm committed to working with this 3 committee, with Congress, and with the dedicated 4 men and women of the Department of Homeland 5 Security to fulfill our mission. And together, 6 we can ensure that the United States remains a 7 beacon of freedom, safety, and security for 8 generations to come. So, thank you for the 9 opportunity and the honor to appear before you 10 today. Thank you for the meetings and the time 11 that you took in your office to discuss the 12 department and what we can do in the future to 13 make the American homeland much more secure. I 14 look forward to your questions, and I hope to 15 earn your trust, and hopefully also your vote, as 16 we embark on this critical work together. With 17 that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back. 18 SENATOR PAUL: Thank you, Governor 19 Noem. We will now proceed to questions. Each 20 member will have seven minutes. We will have a 21 vote that will start at 10:00 a.m., but we're 22 going to continue the hearing and keep people in 23 line; as you come and go to vote, we'll keep the 24 hearing moving. I want to be clear from the 25 outset that we will not tolerate any disruptions.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p>

<p>1 The Capitol Police have been asked to escort 2 anyone immediately from the room if they disrupt 3 the hearing. 4 This is a standard question, Governor 5 Noem, that we ask of all nominees. Governor 6 Noem, do you agree without reservation to comply 7 with any request or summons to appear and testify 8 before any duly constituted Committee of Congress 9 if you are confirmed? 10 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, Mr. Chairman, 11 SENATOR PAUL: I'm going to reserve the 12 rest of my time for my questions and go to 13 Senator Peters. 14 SENATOR PETERS: Thank you, Mr. 15 Chairman. Governor Noem, the DHS Secretary, has 16 many competing priorities, as you well know, and 17 you outlined, certainly, in your opening 18 comments, from our borders to wildfires to cyber- 19 attacks. But as you and I discussed at length, 20 and I appreciate you bringing it up in your 21 opening comments as well, we do have a northern 22 border in addition to a southern border, that's 23 absolutely essential that the DHS has the 24 resources necessary at the northern border to 25 carry out its mission, both between ports of</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p>	<p>1 addressing all threats that may come in from any 2 direction. And also, with the bridge as well and 3 staffing up on that, that as well, and I've 4 assured Senator Slotkin as well that our focus is 5 there to make sure that it is staffed 6 appropriately. 7 SENATOR PETERS: Very good. And as we 8 discussed, the department is diligently working 9 to stand up the Northern Border Mission Center at 10 Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Michigan, 11 following the authorization and funding that I 12 was able to secure in the last Congress. This 13 center is critical to supporting the Department's 14 northern border security missions and addressing 15 evolving threats. So, quick question: if 16 confirmed, do you commit to working with me to 17 fully build out the Northern Border Mission 18 Center? 19 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, Senator, we will 20 look forward, and I look forward, to working with 21 you to ensure that that is a priority, and that 22 it's adequately resourced, and working with 23 Congress and Senators to make sure that we have 24 what we need to make sure that that mission for 25 that base is fully fulfilled.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p>
<p>1 entry and all along the border. In fact, we've 2 seen an increase in unauthorized crossings in 3 recent years at the northern border. 4 So, my question for you is, if 5 confirmed, do you commit to ensuring, along with 6 the southern border, that the northern border is 7 sufficiently staffed to maintain its security and 8 robust trade between the U.S. and its neighbors, 9 including at the Gordie Howe International Bridge 10 in my home state of Michigan, have the resources 11 they need to facilitate trade, while keeping 12 Americans safe? 13 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, Senator Peters, 14 you and I talked about this in your office, and 15 also with Senator Slotkin as well, how important 16 it is to continue to remain focused on our 17 northern border, and all borders and ports of 18 entry that the United States has. I think 19 there's been some universal concern from some of 20 the committee members that as we focus on the 21 southern border and what we're seeing, as far as 22 the invasion there and the amount of people 23 crossing, that the northern border would lose 24 focus. But that will not happen, and we will 25 ensure that our borders are secure, and we're</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p>	<p>1 SENATOR PETERS: Great. Thank you. On 2 New Year's, we witnessed two incidents that 3 reminded us that terrorism and extremism remain 4 serious threats to all Americans. Both DHS and 5 the FBI have consistently said that the most 6 persistent threat to the homeland is from U.S.- 7 based individuals or small groups radicalized by 8 a variety of ideologies, from white supremacy to 9 ISIS to al-Qaeda. We must certainly continue to 10 focus on people who are radicalized here in the 11 United States with the intent of terrorizing our 12 communities. So, my question for you, ma'am, is 13 how do you plan to address this threat of U.S.- 14 based terrorists? 15 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, this is a 16 grave concern for our country, as we all agree 17 that the number one threat to our homeland 18 security is the southern border. In fact, since 19 Joe Biden has been president, we've seen 382 20 individuals that have come over that border that 21 are on the terrorist watch list. I, behind me, 22 have the governor of Louisiana with me, and he 23 and his state and people in this country went 24 through a horrific event on New Year's Day, and 25 one that we never want to see repeated again.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p>

<p>1 But this governor behind me is concerned also 2 about an upcoming event, which is the Super Bowl, 3 coming shortly, which we need to do all that we 4 can to work together, that he has the reassurance 5 that the federal government, that the Department 6 of Homeland Security, is prepared to help him 7 protect that event, and to keep people safe while 8 they are there. 9 Those 382 terrorists are known 10 terrorists that have come over our border. We 11 don't know necessarily where they are because of 12 what has been happening under Joe Biden's 13 policies. Now, President Trump obviously won the 14 last election with a clear mandate, and that 15 mandate is for the American people to secure that 16 border. But also, we need to focus on domestic 17 terrorism and homegrown terrorism, which you just 18 referenced in your question. Homegrown 19 GOVERNOR NOEM: Homegrown terrorism is 20 on the rise. We see more and more incidents of 21 people that are U.S. citizens that have become 22 radicalized. And knowing when people are leaving 23 the country and coming back and changes to their 24 behaviors and what their actions are is 25 critically important.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p>	<p>1 infiltrated the Department of Treasury and stole 2 potentially thousands of unclassified documents. 3 So, given these concerning trends by the PRC to 4 hold our federal networks' hostage, do you 5 believe that federal agencies should be required 6 to implement cybersecurity upgrades and maintain 7 the highest cybersecurity standards to protect 8 sensitive or classified data and U.S. citizen 9 information as well? 10 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, Senator, the 11 mission of CISA, which is the Cybersecurity and 12 Infrastructure Agency, the mission of it is to 13 hunt and harden. It's to find those bad actors 14 and help work with local and state 15 infrastructure, critical infrastructure entities 16 so that they can help them be prepared for such 17 cyber-attacks and that they can make sure that 18 they're hardening their systems to protect them 19 in the future, recognizing the vulnerabilities 20 that they have. 21 CISA has gotten far off mission. 22 They're using their resources in ways that was 23 never intended. The misinformation and 24 disinformation that they have stuck their toe 25 into and meddled with should be refocused back</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p>
<p>1 So, the resources that the Department 2 of Homeland Security has needs to be utilized as 3 far as identifying those threats and being 4 proactive to prevent them but also protecting 5 civil rights and liberties in that process and 6 making sure that the department is on mission to 7 do what it was called to do, why it was created, 8 and what authorities that Congress and the Senate 9 has given them. 10 My hope is that Governor Landry and his 11 staff and his people and the people that attend 12 the Super Bowl know that the Department of 13 Homeland Security is their partner, is on watch 14 to protect them and to keep that event safe. I 15 hope all Americans know that leadership has 16 consequences. I hope that we can get through and 17 get your support for this nomination and get 18 confirmed quickly so that we can address the 19 threats that we currently face and make sure we 20 don't have any repeats of the day that we saw 21 just starting this year on New Year's Day. 22 SENATOR PETERS: In the last two years, 23 we have seen increasingly aggressive and 24 expansive cyber-attacks against our federal 25 agencies. Just last month, Chinese hackers</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p>	<p>1 onto what their job is, and that is to support 2 critical infrastructure and to help our local and 3 small businesses and critical infrastructure at 4 the state level to have the resources and be 5 prepared for those cyber-attacks that they will 6 face. 7 Salt Typhoon was a campaign of 8 espionage by the PRC in China against our 9 telecoms where large amount of data was stolen 10 and taken, and people's private information was 11 taken as well. And we've also seen China and the 12 PRC go after our critical infrastructure with the 13 Volt Typhoon hack, and that was extremely 14 dangerous because there was no reason for them to 15 do that, just to steal people's data and 16 information. 17 The reason for them to go after that 18 was to control our critical infrastructure for 19 the ability to see if they could shut down a 20 water plant, a utility company. And that was to 21 cripple our country. So, these threats are real. 22 CISA needs to be much more effective, smaller, 23 more nimble to really fulfill their mission, 24 which is to hunt and to help harden our nation's 25 critical infrastructure.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p>

<p>1 SENATOR PETERS: Thank you. 2 GOVERNOR NOEM: Thank you. 3 SENATOR JOHNSON: Senator Scott. 4 SENATOR SCOTT: Governor, 5 congratulations on your nomination. 6 GOVERNOR NOEM: Thank you. 7 SENATOR SCOTT: I think you're going to 8 do a great job. 9 GOVERNOR NOEM: Thank you. 10 SENATOR SCOTT: I think it's great that 11 you're a governor and you bring that expertise to 12 the table. So, I just went through the campaign 13 to get reelected, and it was after the Butler 14 shooting. I had asked people at all my events. 15 I say, "Raise your hand if you think the acting 16 director of the Secret Service is going to tell 17 us what happened." Not one person. I said, 18 "What about Mayorkas? He's running HHS, what do 19 you think, or Homeland Security. What do you 20 think?" I said, "How about Christopher Wray, 21 head of the FBI?" Not one person. Can you just 22 talk about the importance of transparency and 23 accountability in government and how you're going 24 to bring that to the table? 25 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah. Senator, Scott,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p>	<p>1 people there and being adequately staffed and 2 resourced. 3 But frankly, the leadership hasn't been 4 honest about talking about it. We saw this with 5 the drones over New Jersey as well, the federal 6 government not answering the questions from the 7 public. And when they finally got a straight 8 answer out of President Trump, they felt 9 reassured that somebody recognized that this was 10 something they were questioning and that they 11 deserved answers. 12 My goal and my mission is to build 13 trust. We will undertake a large job and a large 14 duty that we have to fulfill, that the American 15 people expect us to do by securing our border to 16 make sure that our nation is a nation with 17 borders or we're no nation at all, and that we 18 are making sure that those criminal actors that 19 are perpetuating violence in our communities and 20 in our cities and towns and states are removed 21 from this country, that there's consequences for 22 breaking the law in our country again. 23 There has to be consequences because 24 when Americans break the law, there's 25 consequences. And why would we ever allow</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p>
<p>1 thank you for that question because that's what I 2 have found across the country as well, and I know 3 it's certainly true in my home state of South 4 Dakota, is that people don't trust the federal 5 government. They don't trust our leadership and 6 this current administration that's in the White 7 House right now to tell them the truth, to tell 8 them the truth about what the threats really are 9 about our agencies and departments when there are 10 failures, addressing them and fixing it. 11 The Secret Service is one of those 12 perfect examples. They need leadership that 13 understands why that Secret Service was created 14 and what it needs to do. There's two elements 15 really that the Secret Service is tasked with, 16 and that is protective detail and then also 17 investigations. Yet we see investigators within 18 the Secret Service out there investigating 19 antiquities and other things that are off mission 20 when they should be focused on making sure we're 21 addressing national security events with the 22 protocols that are necessary and protecting the 23 individuals that they're charged with and getting 24 that skill set and training that are necessary. 25 That's been compromised by not having enough</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p>	<p>1 someone to come in from another country and not 2 have consequences or allow them to continue to go 3 forward and to commit rape and murders and other 4 break other laws that endanger our society? So, 5 we've had over 13,000 murders that are loose in 6 this country that have come over that border. 7 We've had almost 16,000 rapists and sexual 8 assault perpetrators that are loose in this 9 country right now. 425,000 plus people have 10 criminal convictions that are here illegally in 11 this country that our current administration's 12 doing nothing to round them up and get them out 13 of our country. 14 We will be doing that immediately, and 15 that will be the priority, and that is one of the 16 reasons that today the American people have lost 17 their trust. President Trump will build it back 18 and know that their federal government is 19 accountable to them and is working to put America 20 first again. 21 SENATOR SCOTT: So, Joe Biden 22 completely opened on our southern border and 23 dismantled our entire immigration system. As a 24 former governor, I know that when the federal 25 government policies are broken and failing</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p>

<p>1 Americans, you see the impacts in your state just 2 like I did when I was a governor, and you take 3 the steps necessary to protect the families in 4 your state. I know you've done that. 5 One thing you did is you talked about 6 before you sent troops, our National Guard, to 7 the southern border. Can you talk more about how 8 Biden's open border policy has affected your 9 state and communities and the role your state 10 resources placed in helping secure the border? 11 GOVERNOR NOEM: We certainly have seen 12 the effects in South Dakota that many of your 13 states did. And I would say every state has seen 14 the effects of an open border in the policies 15 that have been under the Biden administration. 16 We saw increased crime, but we also saw increased 17 drug activity. We saw cartel in their affiliates 18 moving into our state to proliferate trafficking, 19 and we saw people being victimized and a lack of 20 accountability with the federal government. 21 So, when Texas was addressing the 22 situation and asked other governors for help, we 23 sent help. I know many of the other governors at 24 the time were sending law enforcement, but I made 25 the decision that at that time that it was more</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 38</p>	<p>1 security operations. They also did building of 2 the wall and partnered with Texas recognizing the 3 failures of the federal government. 4 The failures of the federal government 5 are significant, and we've seen our families and 6 communities devastated by those effects, by the 7 drug epidemic, by the trafficking that's going 8 on. They increased crime. And we recognize that 9 just because the federal government wasn't doing 10 their job, we could not fail our state. And I 11 needed to protect the people of South Dakota. 12 And the people of South Dakota were 13 overwhelmingly supportive of these deployments 14 and very proud of our National Guard. 15 SENATOR SCOTT: When I was governor of 16 Florida, there was a terrorist hack in Paris by 17 Syrian refugees. So, President Obama was 18 president, and I said, "I'd like to know if 19 you're going to send refugees to my state that 20 you give us some background on them." I assume 21 you vetted them and tell us what's going on. You 22 have to tell me, but you ought to tell our state 23 law enforcement and our local law enforcement 24 that they said, "Go jump in the lake." 25 (Indiscernible) meaner than that, but they said,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 40</p>
<p>1 appropriate to send the National Guard that our 2 National Guard could be activated under Title 32 3 and sent to assist another state from the 4 invasion that was happening and because the 5 National Guard is trained for just such a 6 mission. 7 Because of this invasion, that it is a 8 war zone down there with what they are going to 9 see, the threats that they would see and that 10 they are trained specifically to interact with 11 other agencies, the National Guard is used to 12 falling in with other agencies and cooperating 13 with them and could do that seamlessly, and their 14 families and their communities are normalized to 15 them being deployed. 16 So, we have in South Dakota deployed 17 our National Guard to the southern border eight 18 different times. Two of them were federal 19 deployments that the Biden administration sent 20 them down there. One was to send our Lakota 21 helicopters, which were used for surveillance in 22 the drug interdiction that was going on down 23 there. But six other times, I sent them under 24 state activation to partner with Texas and other 25 states in securing our southern border. They did</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 39</p>	<p>1 "You have no rights as a governor," which had 2 made no sense. We had over 70,000 people come 3 here after Afghanistan on planes into this 4 country completely unvetted. They've never given 5 our governors any information. So, would you 6 change that? 7 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes. The communication 8 between states and the federal government has 9 been absolutely broken, and that's what I love 10 about this committee, is you do have governors 11 sitting on this committee that have been in that 12 role as a commander in chief and have the 13 responsibility for being the CEOs of their state. 14 It's a different perspective than 15 serving. I served in Congress too, and both are 16 extremely important, and they're just different 17 in that responsibility that weighs on your 18 shoulder. I often told folks that that is the 19 thing that most times if something was going to 20 keep me up at night, it was the responsibility 21 that I had being commander in chief, recognizing 22 the decisions that I made. And I'm sure you had 23 this feeling as well, Senator Scott, as governor, 24 that impacted those families, those soldiers. 25 And it impacted their communities when we pulled</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 41</p>

<p>1 them out and the importance of that. 2 And when they were bringing refugees 3 into the country, I as well communicated that to 4 the federal government. They were bringing 5 refugees, and I asked how they were vetted, how 6 we were working with their home countries to find 7 out who they really were, what their intentions 8 were and why they were coming to the United 9 States and received no information from this 10 administration that that vetting process was 11 being done, that we knew where they're going. 12 In fact, they kept us in the dark and 13 didn't communicate to us even what states and 14 where those refugees were being placed. So, that 15 is something that we need to change when we have 16 programs that fall under the purview of the 17 Department of Homeland Security. There needs to 18 be communication, especially with the governor, 19 so that we can coordinate to ensure that it's the 20 right thing for that state. 21 SENATOR SCOTT: Thank you. 22 SENATOR JOHNSON: Senator Hassan. 23 SENATOR HASSAN: Thank you, Mr. Chair. 24 And welcome, Governor Noem. I really appreciate 25 you being here. Welcome to your family as well.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p>	<p>1 at the northern border recently, law enforcement 2 told me about the need for more personnel and 3 resources. We still don't have cell phone 4 coverage in a lot of the stretch of our northern 5 border. I've worked with Senator Kramer on 6 bipartisan legislation to strengthen our northern 7 border strategy because it's clear more support 8 is needed. So, Governor, if you're confirmed, 9 would you deploy additional full-time personnel 10 and upgrade equipment along the northern border? 11 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, I enjoyed our 12 meeting that we had and you identifying the 13 northern border issues that are going on, the 14 lack of security and the lack of technologies 15 that you really need to cover, some of the 16 landscapes that are there very different than the 17 southern border, some just as equally challenging 18 but all need to be addressed. 19 So, I definitely will be working with 20 you to ensure that our northern border is 21 adequately resourced as well, and we do have to 22 have the resources in order to be successful. 23 SENATOR HASSAN: Right. 24 GOVERNOR NOEM: That's something I want 25 to work with Congress, with the Senate and the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p>
<p>1 GOVERNOR NOEM: Thank you. 2 SENATOR HASSAN: And families do share 3 in this kind of public service, and we appreciate 4 them very much. As we discussed at our meeting 5 last month, as a former governor, I appreciate 6 the important responsibilities that governors 7 have to ensure the safety and security of their 8 communities, including by managing public safety 9 and emergency agencies. 10 And I will say that, in many ways, I 11 agree with some of the things that Senator Scott 12 just said about improving communication between 13 the Department of Homeland Security and governors 14 around who is being sent to states. It's a 15 critical issue and something that I was 16 frustrated by when I was governor. So, I look 17 forward to hearing more today about your 18 priorities if confirmed about how your experience 19 as governor would help you run the Department of 20 Homeland Security. 21 Let me just start by following up with 22 a question that Senator Peters had also touched 23 on. We have recently, in New Hampshire, seen a 24 dramatic increase in unauthorized border 25 crossings at the northern border. And when I was</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p>	<p>1 House on to ensure that the resources are there 2 to meet the challenges that we have. We have not 3 fully utilized the technologies that are 4 available that are necessary to really secure 5 this country and to compete with those bad actors 6 which wish to infiltrate our country and having 7 the ability to utilize them will make us much 8 more safe. So, I'll work with you most 9 definitely ensuring the northern border is 10 protected. 11 SENATOR HASSAN: Well, I appreciate 12 that, and I just note too that at the same time, 13 there's real concern in New Hampshire and all 14 along the northern border that we strengthen the 15 border and have the resources we need. We also 16 have a really strong economic relationship with 17 our friends to the north and a lot of family 18 relationships. 19 So, I think it's important that we're 20 smart in the deployment of technology. We don't 21 want to impede that flow of economy and people 22 that's lawful, but we do want to make sure that 23 we have the resources we need. I want to turn to 24 the southern border now. 25</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p>

<p>1 At the southern border, we need 2 significant technological investments to support 3 law enforcement personnel in their efforts to 4 catch fentanyl smugglers to stop human 5 traffickers and seize the cash and illegal guns 6 that criminals traffic southward to the cartels. 7 And we talked about this a little bit. 8 There's bipartisan support for these 9 investments, and I've worked with colleagues 10 including Senators Lankford and Cornyn on 11 legislation around these issues. Governor Noem, 12 could you identify specific technological 13 investments that you would make at the southern 14 border and are you willing to work with me on 15 increasing southbound inspections if you're 16 confirmed?</p> <p>17 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes. Certainly, 18 Senator. You've heard President Trump talk about 19 the need to build a wall. And the wall and 20 infrastructure is critically important. But 21 also, at our 382 legal ports of entry, we need to 22 have technology so that flow can happen north and 23 south, and it can happen in a legal manner to 24 ensure that our commerce can continue to operate, 25 and that we can continue to make sure that we're</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p>	<p>1 attack on power school, a cloud-based record 2 management system that contains personal 3 information about tens of millions of 4 kindergartners through high school seniors, 5 including many students and teachers in New 6 Hampshire. 7 This cyber-attack on power school comes 8 as schools and local governments across the 9 country have seen a surge in cyber-attacks on 10 their systems. And when a small of maybe a 11 thousand students or so has to pay \$2 million in 12 ransom, I want you to think about what that does 13 to one of our small communities. Right? So, 14 Governor Noem, if you're confirmed, how will you 15 empower the cybersecurity and infrastructure 16 security agency to improve the cybersecurity of 17 state and local governments in the United States?</p> <p>18 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, thank you, 19 Senator. If I am confirmed and have the 20 opportunity to serve as secretary of this 21 department, I'll be following the constitution 22 and the rule of law and then getting these 23 departments back on mission to why they were 24 created and why they are existing. 25 What CISA should be doing is helping</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p>
<p>1 also secure. 2 I think de minimis shipments are a 3 concern and the need to look at those and how 4 traffickers and fentanyl distributors are using 5 that. I think we also need to use scanners 6 surveillance operations. There's new 7 technologies out there to cooperate with 8 satellites in some area where the topography does 9 not necessarily facilitate having actual 10 infrastructure and then also the ability to make 11 sure that we're utilizing that technology that 12 allows us to know what is going south that might 13 be fueling some of the violence that ends up 14 coming back north and ensuring that we're 15 stopping that before it has the chance to supply 16 those cartel and bad actors that would come in.</p> <p>17 SENATOR HASSAN: Yeah. I really 18 appreciate that because the southbound flow, 19 particularly of cash and weapons, fuels the 20 cartels and strengthens them. 21 GOVERNOR NOEM: Absolutely. 22 SENATOR HASSAN: And it's something 23 that we really have to focus on. I also want to 24 follow up on the issue of cyber security. 25 Recently, criminals launched a successful cyber-</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p>	<p>1 those small entities, those schools, those local 2 city governments, the state governments, and the 3 small businesses that are critical infrastructure 4 that don't have the resources to stay on top of 5 the critical protections that they need to enact. 6 SENATOR HASSAN: Well, let me follow up 7 just quickly on that one point. It's something 8 we discussed when we had our meeting. I worked 9 with Senator Cornyn on a bipartisan bill. It 10 became law that created a cybersecurity grant 11 program for state and local governments. This is 12 an addition to each state getting a cyber 13 coordinator to help on the ground. 14 We discussed this program, and I know 15 you as governor had some reservations about the 16 structure of the program, but if confirmed, will 17 you commit to working with Congress to adjust it? 18 I'd love your input about what gave you pause as 19 governor. I think there were only two governors 20 who didn't participate in the program. And I 21 hope that as we work on the concerns you have, 22 you'd work with me to adjust and reauthorize the 23 program. 24 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes. All grants within 25 the department will be evaluated when I come in</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 49</p>

<p>1 and be looked at to see what we can do to make 2 sure that they're actually fulfilling the mission 3 to which they were established. What I would say 4 about the cybersecurity grants in South Dakota, 5 when I came in as governor, one of my main 6 priorities was to bring the next industry into 7 the state. And I determined that that would be 8 technology and cybersecurity.</p> <p>9 In fact, we have Dakota State 10 University in our state, which is a cybersecurity 11 national leader in training those cyber warriors 12 that we need to protect us and keep us safe. 13 I've since then partnered to grow and double the 14 size of that school. We train a lot of NSA 15 employees in South Dakota. And so, understanding 16 cybersecurity and my experience and that I think 17 is critically important to the department and 18 bringing it to the table to do this.</p> <p>19 You talked about why we didn't take 20 that cybersecurity grant in South Dakota, and 21 it's because the requirements of that grant 22 would've caused me to grow my state government. 23 The administration costs of it would've been much 24 more than what it been able to facilitate at the 25 local level. And our state was already</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 50</p>	<p>1 Mayorkas has been an absolute disgrace to that 2 department and frankly to this country. And I'm 3 delighted to see you willing to step up and 4 serve. Let me just ask you something. I 5 repeatedly asked your predecessor when he sat 6 where you're sitting, whether the southern border 7 was secure. And he repeatedly told me under 8 oath, "It is secure, Senator." And he repeatedly 9 said under oath, "Our policies are working, 10 Senator," meaning the Biden administration 11 policies that, of course, gave us this 12 devastating open border. So, let me just ask 13 you, is the southern border secure as we find it 14 today?</p> <p>15 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, no. The 16 southern border is not secure today. But in just 17 three days, we will have a new president in this 18 country, President Donald J. Trump. And he will 19 secure our border.</p> <p>20 SENATOR HAWLEY: That is refreshing 21 candor. I'm glad to hear it. Let me ask you 22 about a young man from my state. This is Travis 23 Wolfe who's 12 years old when he was killed just 24 over a year ago by an illegal migrant who mowed 25 him down, and I choose my words carefully, mowed</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 52</p>
<p>1 proactively helping these individuals that needed 2 the resources to secure their systems.</p> <p>3 SENATOR HASSAN: Well, I appreciate 4 that. I'm way over time. There were very few 5 requirements purposely in that grant program 6 other than to make sure the money was being spent 7 the way we authorized. But let's continue to 8 talk about that.</p> <p>9 GOVERNOR NOEM: Thank you.</p> <p>10 SENATOR HASSAN: Thank you.</p> <p>11 SENATOR JOHNSON: Senator Hawley.</p> <p>12 SENATOR HAWLEY: Thank you, Mr. 13 Chairman. Governor Noem, welcome. 14 Congratulations on your nomination. I'm 15 delighted to see you here. I do notice the 16 Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee is over 17 your shoulder there. I have to question your 18 judgment about who your friends are based on that 19 through the great Chairman from the state of 20 Missouri. It's fantastic to have you here.</p> <p>21 The Department of Homeland Security is 22 not particularly old, but you already have the, 23 what I hope, will soon be the distinction of 24 succeeding the worst secretary in the history of 25 the Department of Homeland Security. Alejandro</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 51</p>	<p>1 him down in a motor vehicle, hit him head on 2 doing 75 and a 40, killed him. Others were 3 severely injured. Just yesterday, a witness 4 sitting where you are sitting today told this 5 committee that migrant crime is and I quote, "Not 6 an actual concern." Not an actual concern.</p> <p>7 In a hearing before this committee 8 advising us to drop the Laken Riley act and not 9 focus on migrant crime. In my state with the 10 death of people like Travis Wolfe and Officer 11 David Lee who was assaulted and killed in St. 12 Louis and officers in Kansas City who have been 13 assaulted by illegal migrants and others who have 14 been carjacked and stabbed, would you agree with 15 me that migrant crime sure as heck is an actual 16 concern and that you intend to do something about 17 it?</p> <p>18 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, Senator. 19 Absolutely. And I'm so sorry about Travis. My 20 prayers go out to his family. I can't even 21 imagine what that is like, and thank you for 22 telling his story because there's so many 23 families in this country that have that same 24 story, and they don't understand why the federal 25 government is allowing people to come into this</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 53</p>

<p>1 country illegally and then perpetuate crimes 2 against their people, and then give them 3 resources and shelter and food and debit cards to 4 go take care of their families when they go to 5 work every single day to make sure that they're 6 providing for their families and are held 7 accountable to when they break our laws. 8 SENATOR HAWLEY: Let me ask you this, 9 will you work with President Trump to reinstate 10 the Remain in Mexico program that the President 11 had in place in his first term, which does so 12 much to ensure that those who would seek to abuse 13 our asylum system are not allowed into the 14 country and those who have legitimate asylum 15 claims, their claims are processed in due order 16 and in due course, but they wait in Mexico until 17 those claims are fully processed. Will you work 18 to reinstate that program? 19 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, Senator. The 20 president and I have talked extensively about 21 this, and we'll 100 percent partner with him to 22 reinstate the Remain in Mexico policy and make 23 sure that it's in place. 24 SENATOR HAWLEY: Fantastic. I think 25 Travis might be alive today if that policy had</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 54</p>	<p>1 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, Senator. If 2 confirmed, and I have the opportunity to be 3 secretary on day one, CBP One will be shut down. 4 There's data and information in there that we 5 will preserve so that we can ensure we know who's 6 coming into this country and who's already here 7 that we need to go find. But also, we make sure 8 that there's another program, CHNV, which I'm 9 sure you're very familiar with, where our federal 10 government actually paid to fly people into this 11 country directly from other countries without any 12 vetting or knowing who they are. So, there's 13 several of these programs that need to be 14 eliminated, and we need to ensure that we're 15 following legal immigration laws. 16 SENATOR HAWLEY: I'm glad you just 17 mentioned CHNV. This is a mass parole program. 18 Of course, as you know, our law allows parole in 19 only very limited circumstances. There are two 20 circumstances, and it requires case by case 21 evaluation. The present administration soon to 22 be gone has granted mass parole in direct 23 defiance of the law, not case by case evaluation. 24 The CHNV program is one of those instances. Will 25 you put a stop to this abuse of our parole law</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 56</p>
<p>1 been in place. Let me ask you about CBP One, the 2 phone app, that I've called concierge service for 3 illegal Immigrants. I'm sure you're familiar 4 with it. This was the Biden administration's 5 effort to allow asylum seekers to apply ahead of 6 time using their phones but not actually to 7 provide any evidence that they needed asylum. 8 There is a newspaper report, a press report that 9 said the only problem with the app is it never 10 asks users are you seeking asylum? They don't 11 ask for any asylum evidence. They simply release 12 these so-called asylum seekers who use the app 13 into the country on parole. 14 Sometimes, they're never given a 15 hearing. The Inspector General actually did a 16 report, a full investigation report on CBP One 17 and found that, frequently, users of this app 18 were claiming the same addresses in the United 19 States as their intended destination, even though 20 they didn't know each other, they weren't family 21 connections. In other words, it has been 22 completely abused. And the idea that the federal 23 government would pay for this kind of concierge 24 service for Illegals, I think, is outrageous. 25 Will you end the use of the CBP One app?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 55</p>	<p>1 and our asylum system? 2 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, we will go back to 3 case by case evaluation of these parole cases and 4 ensure that we have more resources, if you will 5 partner with us to make sure that our legal 6 immigration system is fully utilized, that we 7 have more judges, more immigration courts so that 8 we can process people legally and make sure that 9 they are going through that process rather than 10 like Joe Biden has done, use this an excuse to 11 allow people to come into our country with no 12 consequences. 13 SENATOR HAWLEY: Let me ask you about 14 another low light, not a highlight, but a low 15 light of this last administration and DHS. Your 16 predecessor, the current secretary of DHS, 17 established a disinformation board using taxpayer 18 resources to police speech on the internet and 19 elsewhere to tag American citizens' viewpoints as 20 either legitimate or not legitimate and use the 21 power of the state to censor them, including 22 having them removed and perhaps penalized. 23 This has got to be the darkest chapter, 24 I think, in DHS's short history. He eventually 25 withdrew the board under intense criticism but</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 57</p>

<p>1 has never fully repudiated it and never promised 2 not to do it again. Will you pledge to us here 3 today that, under your leadership, there will 4 never be a disinformation board or anything like 5 it at DHS, and you will be a champion for the 6 free speech and first amendment rights of all 7 Americans?</p> <p>8 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, there will not 9 be a board such as that under my leadership at 10 the Department of Homeland Security.</p> <p>11 SENATOR HAWLEY: Fantastic. Let me ask 12 you my remaining seconds, just one more thing 13 about the Secret Service. You've mentioned this, 14 and I'm so glad that you did this committee. And 15 it has been bipartisan. This committee has done 16 bipartisan work on the attempted assassinations 17 or the assassination attempts, I should perhaps 18 say, of the former president, the future 19 president, soon to be the president, President 20 Trump. We were stymied at every turn, and I 21 should use the present tense. We are currently 22 being stymied at every turn by the current Secret 23 Service leadership and, frankly, by the 24 leadership of DHS who have refused to turn over 25 documents who refused to make people available</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 58</p>	<p>1 it was a bipartisan report, an investigation that 2 this committee conducted. And I appreciate you 3 focusing on that, and I'll work with you to get 4 the information so that you have the truth of 5 really what happened there in the failures so 6 they can be fixed.</p> <p>7 SENATOR HAWLEY: Thank you. That's a 8 great place to end in a high note as I see my 9 friend, Senator Blumenthal, who did fantastic 10 work on this effort, and it will be an incredible 11 new day and incredibly refreshing day to have a 12 DHA secretary who will tell us the truth, who 13 will be honest with us about the facts, honest 14 with the American people and who will enforce our 15 law. And I know you'll do that. Governor Noem, 16 I look forward to supporting your nomination. 17 Congratulations.</p> <p>18 GOVERNOR NOEM: Thank you.</p> <p>19 SENATOR JOHNSON: Senator Blumenthal.</p> <p>20 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: Thanks, Senator 21 Johnson. Welcome, Governor Noem. And thank you 22 for being here. Thank you for visiting with me 23 and thank you to your family for their service as 24 well. Let me begin on a high note thanking 25 Senator Hawley for his leadership on the effort</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 60</p>
<p>1 for interviews.</p> <p>2 We finally had to pass my own law in 3 this committee, which we unanimously adopted a 4 law statute, mind you, which would require DHS 5 and Secret Service to turn over relevant 6 information to us about the assassination 7 attempts. It's unbelievable. When you come to 8 office to this office, I hope very soon will you 9 pledge to us that you will open the books on all 10 of the facts associated and around these 11 assassination attempts that you will make 12 available to us and to the public, most 13 importantly, all the facts so that we can ensure 14 that this never happens again and that the needed 15 reforms in the Secret Service are put into 16 effect.</p> <p>17 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah. Senator, if I am 18 the Secretary of Homeland Security, I will 19 certainly work with you to build transparency and 20 make sure the facts are shared with you and your 21 committee. I know that you've been very 22 frustrated by the lack of transparency from the 23 department. And I want to thank those of you 24 that have worked on that report that was put 25 together on these assassination attempts. I know</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 59</p>	<p>1 that I led with him to essentially get some basic 2 facts out of the Secret Service when we were 3 investigating Senator Johnson and I as leaders of 4 the permanent subcommittee on investigation, 5 helping you lead it with the Chairman and ranking 6 member here.</p> <p>7 And I'm hoping that you've read our 8 report and that you will agree to begin 9 implementing its recommendations, which call for 10 major reforms, in my view, a house cleaning top 11 to bottom in the Secret Service and greater 12 transparency with this committee and with the 13 American public.</p> <p>14 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, sir. I will 15 certainly work with you to do that and to work to 16 make sure that we have that transparency, and the 17 committee has the information that it needs to do 18 due diligence of its oversight.</p> <p>19 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: Our investigation 20 is continuing, Senator Johnson, and I have 21 discussed it. And we will be making more 22 requests to pursue the fact-finding that is so 23 important. I want to ask you about disaster 24 relief. California is on fire. The fire's 25 raging. There are going to leave destruction and</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 61</p>

<p>1 devastation that is heartbreaking. 2 I am really disappointed with some of 3 the statements that President-elect Trump has 4 made, for example, saying that quote, "We won't 5 give him," referring to Governor Newsom, "money 6 to put out all his fires. And if we don't give 7 him money to put out fires, he's got. 8 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: ... a problem. 9 The specter is there of potential discrimination 10 based on politics, withholding money from 11 California or other states. It's not an 12 unfounded fear. In the last administration, 13 there were public reports about President Trump 14 withholding money from the State of Washington 15 because of his disagreements with Governor 16 Inslee. Connecticut, like the rest of the 17 nation, suffers from these natural disasters. 18 Most recently in August, we were hit by major 19 flooding, and these natural disasters are going 20 to become more frequent, as will be the need for 21 the federal government to meet the requests for 22 declarations of natural disaster. I assume you 23 will agree with me that withholding disaster 24 relief by President Trump or any other chief 25 executive of the United States is a violation of</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 62</p>	<p>1 that's a yes. 2 GOVERNOR NOEM: I don't speak to 3 hypotheticals, which is what you're asking me to 4 do. But what I will tell you is that as 5 secretary, I will do the same. I will deliver 6 the programs as the laws dictate. 7 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: Well, it's more 8 than a hypothetical, with all due respect, and I 9 apologize for interrupting you, but my time is 10 limited, as you know, as a veteran of these 11 hearings. It's more than a hypothetical. It's 12 based on experience with President Trump 13 withholding money from Washington State and 14 elsewhere. I need to know from you, will you 15 stand up to the President and say, "No, the 16 Constitution and the Impoundment Act requires us, 17 for example, to allocate the 100 billion dollars 18 that we have just appropriated in the last 19 session to states like Connecticut \$3 million, 20 Texas, \$10 million, almost every one of the 21 states represented here." Will you say no to the 22 President if he withholds that money? 23 GOVERNOR NOEM: Sir, I don't know about 24 the scenarios that you're referencing with 25 President Trump, but what I will tell you is that</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 64</p>
<p>1 his duty and of law. 2 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, Senator 3 leadership has consequences and looking at the 4 tragedy that's happening in California is -- 5 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: I want to ask you 6 yes or no, with all due respect, it's an easy -- 7 GOVERNOR NOEM: What's happening in 8 California is the ramification of many decisions 9 over many years. But under my leadership at the 10 Department of Homeland Security, there will be no 11 political bias to how disaster relief is 12 delivered to the American people. 13 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: So, if President 14 Trump were to say to you, "We're going to 15 withhold money from Connecticut or Michigan or 16 any of the states, Iowa, because we don't like 17 the governor or we don't like the politics of the 18 state," you would stand up to him and say, "Mr. 19 president, we need to allocate that money." 20 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, in three days, 21 President Trump will take an oath to uphold the 22 Constitution and the rule of law in this country, 23 and he will do that, and I'll be glad to have him 24 back. 25 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: And I assume</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 63</p>	<p>1 if given the chance to be Secretary of Homeland 2 Security, that I will deliver the programs 3 according to the law and that it will be done 4 with no political bias, and if the programs 5 change or if you decide to change the rule of 6 law, then I will follow that while adhering to 7 the Constitution. 8 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: So, you pledge to 9 allocate and distribute that 100 billion dollars? 10 GOVERNOR NOEM: According to how the 11 program is written with no political bias. 12 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: Thank you. 13 GOVERNOR NOEM: Every American deserves 14 to be there and have disaster relief the same as 15 their neighbors. 16 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: Basically, 17 following the law. 18 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes. 19 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: Let me ask you, 20 Senator Peters asked you about homegrown 21 terrorists. The New Orleans tragedy was the 22 result of a homegrown terrorist born in this 23 country radicalized by ISIS and it reflects the 24 reason why the intelligence community, the FBI, 25 almost all of our law enforcement has said</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 65</p>

<p>1 repeatedly, domestic violent extremism is the 2 most lethal and persistent threat to our 3 security. That terrorist was radicalized by 4 ISIS. The investigation is underway, we don't 5 know all the facts, but we do know that he was a 6 military veteran, and ISIS was responsible for 7 radicalizing him. Shouldn't we focus on ISIS as 8 a threat to this country's security?</p> <p>9 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, certainly we 10 should be focused on all threats to this nation's 11 security. That's the mission of the Department 12 of Homeland Security and homegrown terrorism is 13 growing. We have more and more incidences. The 14 tragedy we saw and the terrorist attack in New 15 Orleans was --</p> <p>16 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: What will you do 17 to combat it? What will you do to stop ISIS and 18 other extremist organization from radicalizing 19 people in this country?</p> <p>20 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, certainly 21 Senator, I'll continue to work with the 22 administration and our partners and the 23 Department of Defense, the intelligence agencies 24 also within Secretary of State and the other 25 branches and cabinet officials to make sure we're</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 66</p>	<p>1 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah, I look forward to 2 working with you.</p> <p>3 SENATOR PAUL: Senator Ernst.</p> <p>4 SENATOR ERNST: Thank you, Senator 5 Johnson. Governor Noem, thank you so much for 6 being here today and I want to thank you for your 7 continuing service, the service that you had as a 8 member of Congress, the service that you have 9 displayed as a governor of the great State of 10 South Dakota, our neighbor to the northwest, and 11 for being willing to step up and take on this 12 immense responsibility. So, thank you so very 13 much.</p> <p>14 We had such a good discussion when you 15 came to my office in the last several weeks, and 16 we talked about the importance of securing our 17 border and fixing our broken immigration system. 18 And I'd like to start today by sharing a story 19 about one of my constituents from Council Bluffs, 20 Iowa. And what we have seen through this broken 21 border is tragedy that strikes so many families 22 across the United States. So, very similar to 23 the story that was shared by my colleague from 24 Missouri with his constituent Mr. Wolf. I have a 25 young woman by the name of Sarah Root who</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 68</p>
<p>1 bringing all resources to bear to identify and to 2 stop these types of terrorist activities. What I 3 would say is the cybersecurity and intelligence 4 elements that we have within the Department of 5 Homeland Security have been incredibly siloed. 6 They have not communicated with other 7 intelligence agencies like they should and 8 partnered. INA has some interaction but not 9 enough and we also need to have CISA have 10 interaction with the FBI, CIA to make sure 11 they're working together to stop these types of 12 threats and identify when they're growing among 13 our citizens and how they become radicalized.</p> <p>14 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: My time has 15 expired. This area of questioning I think is 16 supremely important. I know there's a lot of 17 focus on the border. We all want more border 18 security. We want to stop migrant crime, but 19 let's not take our eye off the ball. The 20 governor of Louisiana for the Super Bowl ought to 21 be really riveted on the potential for homegrown 22 terrorism as a threat, and I hope that you will 23 help him and other governors to do their duty to 24 protect the people of the United States from that 25 homegrown terrorist threat. Thank you.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 67</p>	<p>1 encountered tragedy on January 31st, 9 years ago. 2 So, Sarah Root was struck and killed by an 3 illegal immigrant who was drunk driving. He was 4 driving at three times the legal limit of 5 alcohol, and Sarah's killer was bonded out, 6 bonded out before the Roots laid her to rest. He 7 fled the country and has not been seen or heard 8 from since. The Root family has not seen 9 justice. So, Governor, how do you plan to 10 prioritize the detention and deportation of 11 illegal immigrants like Sarah's killer?</p> <p>12 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, yes, Senator, 13 thank you for telling Sarah's story. I remember 14 when this happened because it was so close to 15 home and so devastating for her and her family 16 and the entire State of Iowa and our country. 17 President Trump is focused on making sure that 18 these types of situations don't happen again, 19 that we don't continue to lose our children and 20 our family members to illegal immigrants that 21 come in and perpetuate crime with no 22 accountability and then are released with no 23 consequences. So, the number one priority of the 24 president is to secure the border and to deport 25 these criminal actors immediately and as soon as</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 69</p>

<p>1 possible. They will be the number one priority 2 to make our communities safer and so that we 3 don't have this kind of situation going forward. 4 In fact, people, I think when they 5 first heard my name being mentioned and nominated 6 for the Department of Homeland Security, maybe 7 thought it was a little bit of a surprise, like, 8 "Oh, I didn't think about Kristi doing that job." 9 But I tell people the reason that I asked for it 10 is because I knew it was the President's number 11 one priority. I knew that it needed to have 12 someone in the position that would do what the 13 President promised the American people, would be 14 strong enough to do it and follow through to make 15 sure that we're protecting our communities and 16 America. But that also came at it from a 17 perspective of how these families feel, that was 18 a wife and a mom and a grandmother and would be 19 able to stand up and communicate to the American 20 people what we were doing and why we were, 21 because it's what they asked us to do. 22 I have three grandchildren and one more 23 on the way, and when I look at Little Miss Addie 24 every day, I just think, "What kind of a country 25 is she going to grow up in? What kind of a</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 70</p>	<p>1 making sure that any communications are secured, 2 any work is secured. And to that, I know the 3 Biden Administration has put a huge emphasis on 4 the cyber bureaucracy, but they haven't really 5 done anything about it, and they haven't given 6 any authority to those that are enforcing the 7 standards. So, we need to enforce the standards 8 that are set forth to make sure the cyber 9 security is truly there, but what can DHS do one, 10 with telework how do we get the employees back, 11 and then two, how do we make sure that our 12 systems are secure from these cyber-attacks? 13 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, Senator, thank 14 you for focusing on remote work and the need to 15 get people back in their offices and accountable 16 to the work that they do. In fact, I've heard 17 since being nominated for this position that many 18 of the agencies within the department are not 19 showing up. They're not doing their jobs. But 20 even FEMA, who is responsible for disaster 21 response, that they have the alternative, some of 22 these employees do not even respond to a 23 disaster, which might explain the horrific 24 results that we saw in North Carolina when they 25 had such a terrible disaster that impacted</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 72</p>
<p>1 country will we leave her and her brother and a 2 sister?" And I don't want them to think that 3 their grandma sat on the sidelines and didn't do 4 all that she could. So, I will enforce the 5 Constitution and the law, and I will make sure 6 that when people enact horrific things like this 7 that happened to Sarah and her family, that there 8 will be consequences for it. 9 SENATOR ERNST: Yeah, absolutely. And 10 as a fellow grandma, I know that you are 11 perfectly positioned to enforce this. 12 I do want to move on to another topic 13 that we visited about in my office. So, I'm the 14 founder and the chair of the DOGE Senate Caucus, 15 and so we do need greater government efficiency, 16 and I do believe in order to do that, we need 17 less of our employees teleworking and more of 18 those government workers back in the office 19 working for our constituents. And to that end, 20 it ties together then too. We just found out 21 that the Treasury Department had a cyber-attack 22 on December 8th from China, and no surprise here, 23 they access servers through work from home 24 software. So, it all ties together. 25 We need more people back in the offices</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 71</p>	<p>1 families and communities, and FEMA failed them so 2 miserably. If It's not even responsibility of 3 them to show up when terrible things happen, what 4 other day-to-day activities are not getting done 5 because they're working from home or not doing 6 their job at all? 7 You talked about cyber security and the 8 need to ensure that our systems are safe and 9 secure. One of the things that disturbs me the 10 most is that we don't necessarily even know how 11 some of these espionage attacks that have 12 infiltrated our systems have happened. We don't 13 know how to stop them yet. We don't have the 14 knowledge and that our departments and 15 intelligence agencies and cybersecurity agencies 16 have become siloed and aren't working together to 17 stay in front of these bad actors. But many 18 times, our most vulnerable area happens at the 19 state and local level. Some of these smaller 20 entities that feeds information into our systems 21 is where they choose to infiltrate and get our 22 data and to really hold for ransom many of these 23 companies and then impact our federal systems as 24 well. 25 So, one of the first meetings I had</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 73</p>

<p>1 when I was elected governor with the former 2 governor during the transition was, he said, "The 3 number one priority you're going to have as 4 governor is to secure our systems." 5 SENATOR ERNST: Yes. 6 GOVERNOR NOEM: He said, "Our systems 7 are so antiquated, and we've had over 16,000 8 hacking attempts in just the last month. You 9 need to secure our systems to get it done." So, 10 that was a priority for me and to do that, and we 11 fully funded it and got it done in South Dakota 12 and it's being implemented today. I look forward 13 to doing that at the federal level to make sure 14 that people's data and information is safe, but 15 also our country is safe from these bad actors 16 that have a plan to take us out. 17 SENATOR ERNST: Well, thank you. My 18 time has expired, but I do want to end on a note 19 that another thing that I do truly appreciate 20 about you and your nomination is that as a 21 governor, you have worked with those local 22 constituencies as well and those local 23 governments, and I know that this will be an 24 incredible strength that will ensure continued 25 success for you within the department. So, thank</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 74</p>	<p>1 that he's in charge of our nation's borders. So, 2 I guess, again, I'd just like to go back to you. 3 How are you going to work with Mr. Homan? What 4 is the division there? I'm trying to get a 5 better sense of who's in charge. 6 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah. Tom Homan is an 7 incredible human being who has over 30 years of 8 experience at the border and the insight and 9 wisdom and he -- 10 SENATOR KIM: Incredible experience, I 11 get that. I'm just trying to think through 12 decision-making process when it comes to your 13 work. For instance, will he be giving orders 14 directly to CBP, ICE, USCIS? 15 GOVERNOR NOEM: Tom Homan has a direct 16 line to the President. He is an advisor to the 17 President, the border Czar. I, obviously, will 18 be if nominated and confirmed and put into the 19 position of being the Department of Homeland 20 Security Secretary and responsible for the 21 authorities that we have and the actions that we 22 take. 23 SENATOR KIM: I say this because I 24 actually want to make sure that we're empowering 25 the next Secretary of Homeland Security.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 76</p>
<p>1 you, Governor, very much. Thank you, Mr. Chair. 2 SENATOR PAUL: Senator Kim. 3 SENATOR KIM: Thank you, Chairman. 4 Governor, it's good to see you. 5 GOVERNOR NOEM: Good to see you again 6 too. 7 SENATOR KIM: Thanks for coming before 8 our committee. I wanted to just ask you not just 9 about your work, but how it's going to fit into 10 the broader incoming Trump Administration and 11 particular, I guess, I'm uncertain about roles 12 and responsibilities regarding your position and 13 Tom Homan's. I guess, I just want to ask you 14 just point-blank who's going to be in charge of 15 the border? 16 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, the president 17 will be in charge of the border. It's a national 18 security issue, and the president is in charge of 19 this country and has made a promise to the 20 American people, and we will fulfill his agenda. 21 SENATOR KIM: Well, that was a good 22 answer, it's the answer I would've given as well, 23 but I guess I got confused. When Trump made the 24 announcement about Tom Homan, he said, "I'm 25 pleased to announce that Tom Homan," and said</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 75</p>	<p>1 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes. 2 SENATOR KIM: In the legislation that 3 was codified by Congress and moved forward that 4 started this after September 11th, said "All 5 functions of all offices, employees and 6 organizational units of the department are vested 7 in the secretary." So, I guess the reason why I 8 mentioned this is I've just seen some quotes from 9 Mr. Homan where he said, "I'll be making 10 decisions on border security and deportation." 11 He was asked in another interview about the 12 stronger role that he'll play, and he said, 13 "Absolutely, I'll be making decisions on how we 14 do the border." 15 So, I just raise that as a concern of 16 mine because not only is that about the function 17 of our executive branch, but also the 18 capabilities of this committee to be able to 19 properly do our constitutional duties for 20 oversight. The ability for us to be able to have 21 that conversation. We can talk to you, engage 22 with you, that is the direct way, but if he is 23 going to be making decisions, then he should come 24 before this committee as well. And I know that 25 that's something where, as far as I know, his</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 77</p>

<p>1 role will be directly at the White House, is not 2 something that will be under the purview directly 3 of this committee. So, I just wanted to raise 4 those concerns.</p> <p>5 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah, yeah. Tom and I 6 work very well together and talk and communicate 7 all the time, and we'll be working together on a 8 daily basis when we're in our positions under the 9 new administration. And I would say there's no 10 authorities being planned to be taken away from 11 the department or myself if I'm in the role, and 12 we'll continue to oversee CPP --</p> <p>13 SENATOR KIM: But it sends some mixed 14 signals. You can understand how people in my 15 home state, maybe around the country, when they 16 hear Mr. Homan saying, "I'm making the 17 decisions." When they hear President-elect Trump 18 say he's in charge of our border. So, I urge 19 that we're going to try to do our best to try to 20 make sure we're empowering the department, 21 empowering the next secretary because that's 22 where our laws are invested in our decision- 23 making.</p> <p>24 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah. Well, thank you 25 Senator, and we'll make sure you have all the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 78</p>	<p>1 get into specifics about what organizations that 2 are out there. So, I just wanted to get a sense 3 of your knowledge of the organizations.</p> <p>4 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, sir. You have all 5 the traditional terrorist organizations that have 6 always threatened the United States, but I would 7 also say --</p> <p>8 SENATOR KIM: Such as?</p> <p>9 GOVERNOR NOEM: I would say Hamas, 10 ISIS, continuing down that path of those 11 terrorist organizations. But we'll continue to 12 also focus though not just on those, but also the 13 cartels, their partnership with the Chinese and 14 what they are doing. Listen, I've told people 15 for years, for over 30 years, I've worked on 16 national policy, on food policy, on agriculture 17 policy, and I've seen the Chinese agenda to 18 infiltrate our country, control our food supply 19 chain, but also their manipulation of their 20 currency and stealing our IP. And now I believe 21 that this fentanyl crisis that they have flooded 22 our country with is geared and the purpose of it 23 is to kill our next generation of Americans. It 24 is to control us.</p> <p>25 SENATOR KIM: No, I don't discount the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 80</p>
<p>1 information that you need. And Tom working 2 directly with the president and I working 3 directly with the president, hope to help you get 4 all that you need to reassured that the 5 authorities will stay the same as they currently 6 are, but we will continue to work to secure that 7 border and make sure that we're working together 8 in that way.</p> <p>9 SENATOR KIM: I want to just switch 10 gears about you raised the concerns about 11 terrorism, especially foreign terrorist groups. 12 I guess I just want to ask you, what are the 13 major foreign terrorist groups that are... Well, 14 first of all, what are the major foreign 15 terrorist groups that are out there that we're 16 tracking, which are the ones that are concerns to 17 us in terms of potentially trying to inspire or 18 coordinate an attack upon us? And if you can, 19 just give me a sense of what their current 20 capabilities are to try to enact that.</p> <p>21 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, I think we face a 22 lot of threats, Senator, and since I'm not in the 23 role today, I shouldn't get into specifics with 24 you, but I think over years the --</p> <p>25 SENATOR KIM: Well, you can at least</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 79</p>	<p>1 importance of those --</p> <p>2 GOVERNOR NOEM: So, when you focus on 3 one or two groups, I think it takes your eye off 4 the ball as to where all the threats could come 5 from. We just spent a significant amount of time 6 talking about homegrown terrorism as well and 7 about --</p> <p>8 SENATOR KIM: Correct. And I'm glad 9 we're having that conversation. But the reason 10 why I mentioned it, I was not trying to quiz you 11 or anything of that nature. It's just that when 12 the Department of Homeland Security, when their 13 threat assessment for 2025 lists three 14 organizations, lists Al Qaeda, lists ISIS, in 15 particular ISIS Khorasan, and the IRGC, and the 16 threat from Iran, I just want to make sure that I 17 get it. You're talking about the importance of 18 the border. We all understand that we want to 19 work with the incoming administration to try to 20 have an orderly process with that. But I just 21 want to make sure in particular with DHS, the 22 primary mission, if we look at the founding 23 legislation, the primary mission, the very first 24 mission is prevent terrorist attacks within the 25 United States and do everything we can to</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 81</p>

<p>1 minimize that type of threat. 2 So, yes, I do think it's important for 3 us to focus in on one, two, or three or just 4 wherever these terrorist groups are at. Yes, 5 yes, I know that part of that effort to try to 6 minimize terrorist attacks is through the work 7 that we try to do to secure our borders, all of 8 them: air, sea, and land. But the primary 9 mission still is about preventing terrorism, not 10 just the border security. That's a tool to be 11 able to accomplish that. So, I just raised that 12 with you. I want to make sure that the next 13 Homeland Security Secretary has a very detailed 14 knowledge and understanding about the terrorist 15 groups, their capabilities, and is tracking that 16 on a absolute daily basis, and that they 17 understand that is their top mission. And with 18 that, I'll yield back to the Chairman. 19 SENATOR PAUL: Senator Johnson. 20 SENATOR JOHNSON: Governor Noem, 21 welcome and thank you -- 22 GOVERNOR NOEM: Thank you. 23 SENATOR JOHNSON: ... for your 24 willingness to serve. You'll be taking over a 25 massive federal government agency, 240,000</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 82</p>	<p>1 been a big topic of conversation in most of the 2 meetings that I've had with the members of this 3 committee was how do we fix this agency which the 4 reputation is that it's broken and dysfunctional. 5 I think that was the question I get asked the 6 most is why would you want to head up such a 7 dysfunctional department? And I would say that 8 because the mission of the department is to 9 secure the homeland and our people, it's our 10 biggest vulnerability right now, and we have a 11 president that's not enforcing the law, and I 12 don't believe the law should be unequally 13 applied. Everyone should be subject to our laws, 14 and a nation without laws and without borders is 15 not a nation at all. So, I will work by ensuring 16 one of the things that Senator Ernst talked 17 about, people have to show up for work. 18 I think there's going to be a majority 19 of people who don't have their primary mission to 20 secure the homeland, that if they don't want to 21 show up for work, then maybe they're just not 22 truly passionate about protecting America. I 23 think they need to do that, and they need to 24 recognize what their job is. The morale in DHS 25 is very low. I'm going to let people do their</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 84</p>
<p>1 employees. It's probably too massive. I think 2 had I been there back then, I don't think I 3 would've assembled these 22 different agencies in 4 this massive department, but that's what we've 5 got. It's a department that the previous 6 administration, I think, has completely misused. 7 Instead of using customs and border protection to 8 do that, to protect our border and secure it, 9 they've utilized those resources to incentivize a 10 massive influx of illegal immigration. Instead 11 of using the Cybersecurity Infrastructure 12 Security Agency to do that, they instead engage 13 in mission creep and utilized it to censor 14 Americans with the misinformation board. I am 15 concerned about disaster relief, just federal 16 disaster relief in general, creating greater and 17 greater and increasing levels of moral hazard 18 resulting in higher costs of these disasters. 19 So, let's cover each one of those kind of in 20 order. How do you gain control over a massive 21 agency whose resources and personnel have been 22 misused? I mean, how do you root out those 23 individuals who instead of securing our border 24 opened it up and facilitated this? 25 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, Senator, this has</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 83</p>	<p>1 jobs. I'm going to remind them what their jobs 2 are. Some of these border patrol agents haven't 3 been able to do their jobs for a very long time. 4 They've been processing paperwork and 5 facilitating an invasion when they should be back 6 securing our border, which is why they were 7 recruited and wanted to serve there to begin 8 with. 9 We're going to build partnerships with 10 local law enforcement, with ICE and task forces. 11 So, we're communicating again with local sheriffs 12 and mayors and law enforcement to partner 13 together. When you talk about the fact that this 14 is such a broken agency that needs so much 15 improvement, a lot of it goes back to why we're 16 recreated and are we fulfilling that mission and 17 making sure that these individuals are getting 18 back on task. 19 SENATOR JOHNSON: So, under my 20 Chairmanship and under the Trump Administration, 21 we did rename a part of DHS, so the Cybersecurity 22 Information Security Agency. I in no way, shape 23 or form ever contemplated that the sub-agency 24 within DHS that was really focused on securing us 25 against the cyber threats and other threats to</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 85</p>

<p>1 our infrastructure would ever be used to violate 2 the Constitution the way it was used to violate 3 the Constitution under the Biden Administration. 4 This administration's been completely opaque. We 5 do not have the information to know and the 6 communication in terms of what all happened here. 7 So, my question is relates to how they misused 8 CISA. Will you commit to providing the 9 transparency, providing the information, 10 investigate it yourself, but provide this 11 committee, my subcommittee, the information to 12 expose the truth of the American public, but even 13 more importantly, propose a piece of legislation 14 based on our investigation, based on those 15 results to fix it so that no administration can 16 ever misuse the language of the law to commit 17 that kind of unconstitutional act and violate 18 people's First Amendment rights? 19 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah, Senator, I look 20 forward to working with you on that. And I think 21 what we saw during the COVID pandemic, the 22 actions of CISA, their misinformation and 23 disinformation campaign, the materials they were 24 putting out was shocking. Shocking at what they 25 were doing to decide what was truth, what wasn't,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 86</p>	<p>1 their lives, the hundreds of billions of dollars' 2 worth of property damage. It's not just 3 California though. I mean, again, that was 4 grotesque mismanagement, that could have been 5 prevented. You can't prevent a hurricane, you 6 can't prevent floods, but you certainly can try 7 and start reducing the moral hazard that we've 8 allowed to explode, quite honestly, by the 9 federal government rushing in immediately, no 10 questions asked, just tell us how big a check you 11 want. What can you do in your new role to try 12 and start reducing over time the moral hazard 13 that we have created in this country with federal 14 disaster relief? 15 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, Senator 16 emergencies and disasters are always locally led. 17 They're led by the local communities and leaders, 18 and that's because they're much more responsive 19 and much better informed on how to bring relief 20 and to get those emergency services there to meet 21 the need. Then it's state supported and 22 federally resourced, which means that when we 23 come in that we're supporting what the mission 24 is, what those emergency operations and plans 25 are, that the local city and county, and then</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 88</p>
<p>1 and how they were trying to manipulate the 2 American people. We saw it in elections and 3 Russia influence as well, and so ensuring that 4 they can't do that in the future under any 5 administration would be a priority, that they 6 stay doing what they're supposed to do and 7 hardening our systems and working with local 8 officials to do that is a priority, and I'd look 9 forward to working with you on legislation should 10 you wish to rein them in. 11 SENATOR JOHNSON: So, the first step in 12 that process is to expose the truth to find out 13 who these backed actors were, expose who they 14 were, hold them accountable. 15 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes. 16 SENATOR JOHNSON: I mean, that is 17 crucial that we take that first step. So, again, 18 look forward to working with you on that. The 19 tragedy of the California fires, the more we 20 learn, the more we understand that not only was 21 it predictable, it was predicted, which means it 22 was preventable. Again, you can't prevent the 23 initiation of those fires, but you certainly 24 prevent them from raging into the tragedy that 25 they became, the dozens of people who've lost</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 87</p>	<p>1 also the state has implemented and do what we can 2 to fulfill the mission of our programs. 3 One of the things that FEMA's not doing 4 today that I think we should be doing is 5 streamlining communications. We saw this in New 6 Orleans, we saw it in other terrorist attacks in 7 the country, and you just referenced it as well 8 about the American people not getting the truth, 9 Senators not getting the truth and the 10 transparency that we need is that I believe FEMA 11 can always put out a blueprint for what a 12 response would be should something terrible 13 happen. 14 And when we look at the Secret Service, 15 what happened in Butler, we saw that 16 communication was an issue, that the Secret 17 Service wasn't communicating, and balls were 18 getting dropped with local authorities, local law 19 enforcement, and we can put forward a blueprint 20 for how communication can happen and be 21 streamlined between the federal government, the 22 state, and the local entities. So, that should 23 something happen, this is how we talk to each 24 other, to make sure that the public has the 25 facts, they're not getting misinformation, which</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 89</p>

<p>1 happened with the New Orleans terror attack just 2 recently, but also up in Pennsylvania as well. 3 That blueprint is what we do at the 4 state level that FEMA has failed to do, to 5 proactively educate the public on what 6 everybody's roles are, what we do should 7 something happen, whether it be a natural 8 disaster or a terrorist attack or an emergency 9 response is needed, that we can put out those 10 blueprints ahead of time, educate people, train 11 those local entities, which they currently do to 12 a certain extent today, but not good enough to 13 really know that not only can the resources be 14 pre-deployed in many of these situations so that 15 they're more readily accessible, but also how are 16 we going to communicate and make sure everybody's 17 on the same page so that we can be much more 18 efficient. 19 I wish that we would've had different 20 leadership and a different governor in 21 California, or we might have a different result 22 there. But in the Department of Homeland 23 Security, we can do all that we can to make sure 24 that the people that live in California know that 25 they're going to get a response from the federal</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 90</p>	<p>1 SENATOR GALLEGO: Thank you, Chairman. 2 Thank you, Governor, for your attendance and I 3 appreciate us meeting last week and our frank 4 conversation. So, following up to our 5 conversation, in recent years, I've been in very 6 close contact with our Arizona border 7 communities, which are unlike other border 8 communities and about the funding needs to 9 address migrant influxes through the shelter and 10 services program or SSP. Without this funding 11 border communities must bear all the financial 12 burden for national immigration challenges and 13 the broken border in general. So, that means 14 police, fire, hospital systems in general, 15 anything of that. And at the same time, they'll 16 also face the potential challenges of street 17 releases. And again, these are very small towns 18 on the border, so having thousands of people 19 being released becomes both burdensome security 20 issues and just not fair to them. And we get 21 lumped in with places like New York and Chicago 22 about how they do their shelter programs. 23 Our shelter programs are not the same 24 as New York and Chicago. We do not permanently 25 put people in apartments or anything of that</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 92</p>
<p>1 government that's appropriate, and we did all 2 that we could to make sure that they had the 3 information ahead of time so they could protect 4 themselves when they do have a failure in 5 leadership like we've seen. 6 SENATOR JOHNSON: Thank you and good 7 luck. 8 GOVERNOR NOEM: You bet. 9 SENATOR PAUL: Since Senator Johnson 10 brought up California fires, I have to interject 11 here. We talked about burn policies, these are 12 local policies, how we try to not have so much 13 brush and things like that. They're also next to 14 the largest body of water in the world, the 15 Pacific Ocean. So, I see these homes all burning 16 on the beach in Malibu, and I'm like, "Wow, if 17 they just had a generator and a hose, you start 18 sucking the water out of the Pacific Ocean." But 19 you could do more than that. You could pump it 20 and put it in cisterns up in the hills a mile or 21 two in. It doesn't rain very much there, but why 22 don't they take the ocean water, put it in 23 cisterns and have a bunch of water ready when a 24 wildfire shows up, but it's like once again, bad 25 local government. Senator Gallego.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 91</p>	<p>1 nature. We are trying to move people away from 2 the border so that way they don't become a burden 3 on these very, very small communities. So, I'm 4 very highly concerned, as I told you in our 5 meeting when the SSP program becomes politicized 6 and to the point where we get lumped in with 7 those programs, I don't think are effective and 8 are actually counterproductive and it ends up 9 depriving our small Arizona borders of these 10 very, very vital funds that they need. So, as 11 DHS Secretary, how would you ensure that border 12 communities are not left to respond to and pay 13 for these immigration influxes, the broken border 14 system on their own? And when you commit to 15 helping really not politicize or just join the 16 SSP program to the point where places that are 17 doing things correctly like Yuma, Arizona, like 18 Pima County, like Cochise County, aren't lumped 19 in with the people that are doing things 20 incorrectly like New York State and Chicago. 21 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, Senator, thank 22 you for the conversation in your office about the 23 program, FEMA, the southern border, and the 24 challenges and then also the difference between 25 your state and how you utilize funds versus other</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 93</p>

<p>1 states. I would say that, my hope is that if 2 given the opportunity to serve as secretary, that 3 the federal government would no longer, and I 4 believe as President Trump has promised the 5 American people facilitate an illegal alien 6 invasion and that your communities in Arizona 7 would no longer have the issue with having people 8 in your small towns and communities that you need 9 to figure out how to take care of and get them to 10 where they want to go in other places of the 11 country.</p> <p>12 The President has promised he will 13 secure the border that we will uphold our 14 nation's laws and that he will do that to the 15 benefit and be putting America first again. So, 16 I know we talked extensively about the SSP 17 program and how you've utilized it, but getting 18 these programs back to what they were intended is 19 important to FEMA as a disaster response agency, 20 and some of the facilities that have been 21 utilizing these types of funds and dollars need 22 to be reevaluated and to make sure that it's 23 truly doing the service that is upholding our 24 nation's laws.</p> <p>25 SENATOR GALLEGOS: And certainly, I</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 94</p>	<p>1 think the mistakes that other states have taken 2 on. Moving on, in Arizona, we have large parts 3 of the board, they run through tribal lands. We 4 have 22 federally recognized tribes. We have 5 great relationships with these tribes. They want 6 to be collaborative partners when it comes to 7 border security. And then we have some great 8 programs that have worked in the past. For 9 example, the Shadow Wolves Program with the 10 Tohono O'odham Nation is a really good example, 11 collaborative program of tribal law enforcement 12 that worked with DHS to make sure they stop human 13 smuggling and cartels going through the borders. 14 But as DHS Secretary, what is your plan to 15 consult with our border tribes and work together 16 to balance both national security but also their 17 sovereignty?</p> <p>18 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah. Well, Senator, I 19 believe that my experience as governor and my 20 relationship with working with our tribes is 21 going to be an incredible powerful tool for me to 22 bring to bear at the Department of Homeland 23 Security to work on how we secure our southern 24 border but still respect their sovereignty and 25 still be able to work with them. This year, when</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 96</p>
<p>1 understand reevaluating especially how some of 2 these states have been using it and in an ideal 3 world, we don't have to have a program like that 4 because we don't have this mass of humanity 5 that's coming towards our borders, but even under 6 the first Trump administration, we actually still 7 needed it also. So, this is why my concern is to 8 not get rid of this program because again, these 9 small communities, I'm talking communities of 10 maybe 10,000 people, maybe only six or seven cops 11 are going to end up really bearing the brunt and 12 we are not a big state. We can't really 13 compensate for these types of losses. These 14 small communities are also largely, you come from 15 a rural state, counties that are largely rural 16 and with a lot of federal land so that actually 17 don't even have a tax base.</p> <p>18 So, when the broken immigration system 19 sends people to these borders and these 20 communities don't have enough money to pay for 21 cops, firefighters over time for hospital 22 systems, it's that type of program that keeps 23 these small communities afloat. So, just want to 24 make sure that again, this doesn't not become 25 politicized and that we are kept separate from I</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 95</p>	<p>1 looking at public safety issues that we had in 2 South Dakota and their lack of ability to hire 3 tribal officers on our reservations in South 4 Dakota, I offered to train federal law 5 enforcement officers, BIA officers, but also 6 their tribal police in South Dakota at no cost to 7 our tribes. And it's been an incredible powerful 8 tool that we've had to build relationships. 9 Those tribal police had the chance to go through 10 academy with the local maybe deputies from the 11 counties and the state highway patrol troopers 12 that were coming on board, and those 13 relationships have built partnerships in our 14 state that we didn't have before.</p> <p>15 The Shadow Wolf training opportunity is 16 incredible. That was down in Arizona that you 17 spoke of too, and in looking into that program, 18 I'd like to continue to build on that and 19 perpetuate in the future so that our tribes have 20 an opportunity to have a secure border but also 21 have it reflect their values and their culture 22 and have their own people be a part of the 23 solution and then even when it comes to the 24 infrastructure of the wall that we're respecting 25 that and their landscapes and their land as well.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 97</p>

<p>1 So, I look forward to working with you as we move 2 into this next administration to be able to 3 protect our country and then work and respect our 4 tribes as we do so.</p> <p>5 SENATOR GALLEGO: Thank you. And the 6 President Trump and some of his other potential 7 staff and advisors have been very vocal about 8 implementing a mass deportation strategy, talking 9 to my agricultural community, my dairy community, 10 they have concerns that this approach will lead 11 to workforce shortages that will further drive up 12 the costs of everything and something that we 13 have really been working hard to cross, I think a 14 bipartisan and a bipartisan manner to bring down 15 the costs of everything and unfortunately this 16 would reignite inflation. What is your plan to 17 ensure safe and legal immigration processes for 18 agricultural workers while protecting local 19 agricultural operations, including those both of 20 our home states?</p> <p>21 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, Senator, the 22 President and President Trump has been very clear 23 that his priority is going to be deporting 24 criminals, those who have broken our laws and 25 perpetuated violence in our communities. That'll</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 98</p>	<p>1 ago today, we met in probably the coldest day 2 I've ever been in my life in Iowa --</p> <p>3 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah, that's true.</p> <p>4 SENATOR MORENO: ... as you and I were 5 making phone calls and whipping up votes for 6 Republicans in Iowa, my wife Bridget, who's here, 7 got a chance to meet you and we left Iowa saying, 8 "That person's really going to go far," and here 9 we are nine years later, you've been an amazing 10 governor, amazing Congresswoman, and now you're 11 going to make an even better Secretary of the 12 Department of Homeland Security. So, I think 13 sometimes in D.C. we tend to complicate things. 14 There is a current Secretary of Homeland 15 Security, so why don't we take this opportunity 16 to do a little job review and compare and 17 contrast him to you. So, if you don't mind, I'll 18 ask you some questions and you can give me an 19 answer. Secretary Mayorkas allowed about, you 20 said it, just about 400 people on the terror 21 watch list to come into this country legally. If 22 you were confirmed as Secretary of Homeland 23 Security, how many people on the terror watch 24 list would you allow into this country?</p> <p>25 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, Senator, we would</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 100</p>
<p>1 be the priority. And as I spoke earlier with our 2 statistics, having over 425,000 of those with 3 criminal convictions in our country, that will be 4 a focus that we need to tackle right away, and 5 it'll be a big one. Beyond that, his next 6 priority is going to be those with final removal 7 orders and focus on those individuals who have 8 long overstayed and that there is a consequence 9 for ignoring our federal laws. Beyond that, 10 we'll continue conversations. As you know, I'm a 11 farmer and a rancher and come from an 12 agricultural state and we'll work together to 13 make sure that laws are followed. It is the 14 Senate and the house that puts forward the laws. 15 I as secretary uphold the law, so you determine 16 what that is and debate and discussion. I'll be 17 transparent and share as much information and 18 insight as I have with my background and 19 experience and continue to work with you.</p> <p>20 SENATOR GALLEGO: (Indiscernible).</p> <p>21 SENATOR PAUL: Senator Moreno.</p> <p>22 SENATOR MORENO: First of all, thank 23 you, Governor, for being here for testifying 24 before this committee and for your service, not 25 just to your state but to America. Nine years</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 99</p>	<p>1 work every single day until that number was zero. 2 And if you look at the previous Trump 3 administration over his entire four years in 4 comparison to Joe Biden's number President Trump, 5 it was 11 that were then removed from the country 6 and faced consequences. When you look at the 382 7 that Joe Biden has let in and the policies 8 continue, is shocking and needs to be changed 9 immediately.</p> <p>10 SENATOR MORENO: Mayorkas let in about 11 12,000 murderers, how many would you target to 12 let into this country?</p> <p>13 GOVERNOR NOEM: My goal every day would 14 be to have no murderers allowed into this country 15 and our communities.</p> <p>16 SENATOR MORENO: Mayorkas allowed 17 16,000 rapists, how many would you target to let 18 in?</p> <p>19 GOVERNOR NOEM: Every day I'd work to 20 make sure that there was none let into this 21 country.</p> <p>22 SENATOR MORENO: He let 600,000 -- 23 Mayorkas, 600,000, people with criminal 24 convictions, how many would you allow in?</p> <p>25 GOVERNOR NOEM: We would work every day</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 101</p>

<p>1 to make sure people are safe and that those with 2 criminal convictions are immediately removed.</p> <p>3 SENATOR MORENO: How many private jets 4 would you have the United States taxpayers have 5 fly into foreign countries to pick up people to 6 bring them here.</p> <p>7 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah. Senator, we will 8 no longer be undertaking that mission at the 9 Department of Homeland Security.</p> <p>10 SENATOR MORENO: So, not 700,000 11 individuals on private jets over the last four 12 years, you would not have any?</p> <p>13 GOVERNOR NOEM: No. I'll be working 14 with President Trump to put in place his agenda 15 and adherence to our federal laws.</p> <p>16 SENATOR MORENO: And how many illegals 17 will you plan to house in luxury hotel rooms in 18 Manhattan at a cost of \$6, 000 per month?</p> <p>19 GOVERNOR NOEM: Sir, clearly, Senator, 20 during this election, the American people said 21 they did not support that and that that would not 22 be a part of this new administration.</p> <p>23 SENATOR MORENO: How about sex change 24 operations for illegals, how many of those would 25 you suspect you would fund?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 102</p>	<p>1 GOVERNOR NOEM: Oh, Senator, my hope is 2 that that would be true. Yes.</p> <p>3 SENATOR MORENO: Let's switch to 4 another part of the disgraceful immigration laws 5 that Biden and Mayorkas, who objectively, by the 6 way, objectively, has been the worst cabinet 7 member ever in the history of the United States 8 of America. Let's talk about temporary 9 protective status. Temporary being the operative 10 word. Mayorkas and Biden just extended temporary 11 protective status again through 2027. Will you 12 continue to corrupt TPS to allow some sort of 13 open borders agenda and will you use hot weather 14 of 80 degrees and sunny beaches in El Salvador as 15 a reason why people have to stay in America and 16 not safely return?</p> <p>17 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah, Senator, this 18 program has been abused and manipulated by the 19 Biden administration and that will no longer be 20 allowed to allow that and these extensions going 21 forward the way that they are, the program was 22 intended to be temporary and this extension of 23 over 600,000 Venezuelans as well is alarming when 24 you look at what we've seen in different states, 25 including Colorado with gangs doing damage and</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 104</p>
<p>1 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, I believe that 2 the Department of Homeland Security will be 3 reevaluating its mission in this country to not 4 allow that going forward under President Trump's 5 goals.</p> <p>6 SENATOR MORENO: And if you had any 7 legal migrant that was in this country and they 8 committed a crime, would you offer them airfare 9 from one state to another to evade law 10 enforcement?</p> <p>11 GOVERNOR NOEM: Sir, I will be 12 following this nation's laws and the Constitution 13 and make sure that all laws are adhered to.</p> <p>14 SENATOR MORENO: And if you had been 15 the head of the Department of Homeland Security a 16 year or so ago, would you have closed a detention 17 center in Georgia that would've allowed the 18 release of somebody charged with a crime?</p> <p>19 GOVERNOR NOEM: Sir, I don't have the 20 specifics to that situation, but certainly that 21 would not be something that I would want to have 22 under my watch.</p> <p>23 SENATOR MORENO: So, just to be clear, 24 Laken Riley would be alive today if you had been 25 the Secretary of Homeland Security?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 103</p>	<p>1 harming the individuals and the people that live 2 there.</p> <p>3 SENATOR MORENO: And in terms of our 4 border, like the physical border, I've been there 5 many times. You've been there many times. Who 6 should be in charge? Who should have operational 7 control of our border? The United States 8 government or the Mexican drug cartels?</p> <p>9 GOVERNOR NOEM: Oh, Senator, the United 10 States needs to control our borders and secure 11 them.</p> <p>12 SENATOR MORENO: So, if this were a job 13 interview in the private sector and you had 14 somebody like Alejandro Mayorkas in charge and we 15 had the opportunity to upgrade to you, this would 16 be the greatest upgrade in history of the United 17 States of America. But I'm going to end my time 18 with a startling statistic and actually a 19 challenge to the Democrat party. When Mayorkas 20 was confirmed, every single Democrat voted to 21 confirm him, and six Republicans joined all 50 22 Democrats in that confirmation. If we get to the 23 vote, and hopefully Chairman, we could do that 24 Monday, because we cannot wait one single day 25 without you being in charge of that department.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 105</p>

<p>1 We should have 100 percent; 100 Senators vote for 2 your confirmation.</p> <p>3 This will be the litmus test in my mind 4 as to whether we have a Democrat party that's 5 actually serious about doing bipartisan things 6 like securing this country and protecting our 7 citizens. Any Democrat that voted for Mayorkas 8 that does not vote for you should be in front of 9 their voters and removed from office. Thank you 10 for serving, Brian. Thank you for being here, 11 for putting up with the nonsense that you guys 12 have had to put up with over the years. You are 13 going to make an amazing Secretary of Homeland 14 Security. Thank you for being here.</p> <p>15 GOVERNOR NOEM: Thank you, Senator.</p> <p>16 SENATOR PAUL: Senator Slotkin.</p> <p>17 SENATOR SLOTKIN: Thanks for being here 18 and thanks for our time in my office, Governor. 19 I'm a former CIA officer, joined right after 9/11 20 and served three tours in Iraq alongside the 21 military. I'm actually the first CIA officer in 22 the Senate and to me the most important thing 23 again as a Democrat from a state that Trump won, 24 right, on the same ballot we both won. I 25 understand we're going to have different policy</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 106</p>	<p>1 very elite military unit. I mean, it's horrible. 2 It's one of the hardest things to catch the sort 3 of lone wolf, radicalized American citizen, but I 4 want to protect ourselves. Our most recent 5 examples of domestic terrorism we're not what 6 we've spent the majority talking about today, 7 crime from a migrant, and I don't dispute there 8 is crime, but I just want to know and I want to 9 hear from you as an intelligence officer that 10 you're going to speak about real threats and not 11 blow something up, politicize something, make 12 something more exciting because that's maybe what 13 the President wants to hear, but your mission to 14 protect and defend the Constitution means calling 15 honestly what the threats are to the country. 16 Can you just give me a yes or no, please?</p> <p>17 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, Senator. I will 18 be as transparent and factual every day with you 19 and the American people as possible based on the 20 information that I have. I don't know if the 21 investigations are closed in New Orleans and in 22 Nevada, but what we know so far and needs to be 23 relayed to the American people, needs to be the 24 truth and facts.</p> <p>25 SENATOR SLOTKIN: Yeah, I'd ask that.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 108</p>
<p>1 opinions. I certainly understand that the 2 President or incoming President has the right to 3 nominate whoever he wants. Those are not the 4 issues for me that I'm going to spend my time on. 5 The ones that I care about the most relate to the 6 mission of the organization when it was founded, 7 protecting the homeland, and I think to me, it's 8 one thing when there's campaign rhetoric or 9 political politicization of things, everyone does 10 that on both sides of the aisle in this committee 11 and in our line of work, but when it comes to 12 actually protecting the country, you do have to 13 be clear and honest about facts and not conflate 14 things.</p> <p>15 So, it's just important to me that I 16 know, particularly since you do have one of the 17 intelligence agencies within the Department of 18 Homeland Security, that you're going to call a 19 spade a spade, right? The most recent acts of 20 domestic terrorism in New Orleans, horrible 21 incident in Nevada had nothing to do with 22 migrants. Correct?</p> <p>23 GOVERNOR NOEM: Correct.</p> <p>24 SENATOR SLOTKIN: They were homegrown 25 American citizens. One of them was actually in a</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 107</p>	<p>1 We've talked a lot about border security. As a 2 CIA officer, I think one of the only people on 3 this committee who's actually worked on 4 protecting the homeland. I'm a Middle East 5 terrorism and militia expert by training, so I 6 believe deeply in it and every country of the 7 world gets to decide who comes inside its 8 borders. That's not a radical concept, but I 9 think I've been open with this committee that it 10 is also on us to fix the deeply broken legal 11 immigration system. I'm glad to hear that you're 12 going to carry out the laws on the immigration 13 system. Democrats and Republicans are to blame 14 that we haven't fixed this system, but I also 15 believe you can't fully control the border unless 16 you give people that we need for our companies, 17 for our economy a legal vetted way to come here. 18 So, do you believe in legal vetted immigration 19 and that we need more of it in the United States?</p> <p>20 GOVERNOR NOEM: I do believe we need to 21 follow our legal immigration laws and that it 22 needs to be vetted. We need more resources, I 23 believe in some of the elements of this to ensure 24 that we're --</p> <p>25 SENATOR SLOTKIN: Do you believe that</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 109</p>

<p>1 our economy depends and needs some level, just 2 like your family came from Norway and on economic 3 drive and wanted a better life -- 4 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, immigration's 5 always been a part of our history and will be a 6 part of our future. We just need to make sure 7 that we're adhering to our nation's laws, which 8 this body has the ability to -- 9 SENATOR SLOTKIN: I'm with you, I'm 10 with you. 11 GOVERNOR NOEM: ... continue to change 12 and to put in place. 13 SENATOR SLOTKIN: Again, going back to 14 the fact that you will pledge an oath to the 15 Constitution, not to President Trump. Just like 16 every other nominee, President Trump said in 17 November that he's willing to use law 18 enforcement, National Guard, or even active-duty 19 military to go after the threat from within the 20 United States. I don't know exactly what he was 21 talking about, but we have recent examples from 22 your predecessors at DHS where federal law 23 enforcement were sent into a state, in this case 24 Oregon without coordination with the governor. 25 Those federal law enforcement officers at the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 110</p>	<p>1 SENATOR SLOTKIN: I just to know you're 2 a former governor, you can imagine that if Joe 3 Biden sent in 700 federal law enforcement under 4 Secretary Mayorkas without coordinating with you, 5 I think we can agree you'd be a little upset. 6 So, I just ask that you give the same respect for 7 coordination and that we are very sensitive. 8 People are worried about politicizing of law 9 enforcement and the uniformed military. That's a 10 bad thing. I hope we can agree. Lastly, I will 11 just say, look forward to looking at the northern 12 border, the Gordie Howe Bridge, your help 13 staffing that. We know you are right now across 14 many administrations, we haven't met our staffing 15 goals at DHS and that's a problem, so we really 16 want to make sure that opens on time. 17 But I also want your assurances. You 18 received FEMA assistance from Joe Biden's 19 administration, right? You had historic floods. 20 You asked and requested of the administration, 21 and you were given millions of dollars to help 22 with that. I understand you don't like Gavin 23 Newsom, but can you say in front of the American 24 people that you will open the books to this 25 committee who does have oversight over FEMA, that</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 112</p>
<p>1 time were putting down threats to federal 2 buildings and they were legitimate threats. I 3 don't dispute, there was destruction of property 4 going on during a bunch of protests and riots, so 5 I don't dispute that. But they weren't wearing 6 insignia. We talked about this. They weren't 7 wearing any markings, so people were arrested by 8 folks in fatigues with no names, no idea who they 9 were, like right out of a bad Hollywood movie. 10 Okay. If the President asks you to send in 11 federal law enforcement to a state without 12 coordination of that, Governor, would you support 13 that action? 14 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, my job, if 15 nominated, and sworn in as Secretary of Homeland 16 Security, is to uphold the Constitution and to 17 uphold -- 18 SENATOR SLOTKIN: So, you will push 19 back -- 20 GOVERNOR NOEM: ... the rules of this 21 country. Yes, that will be the oath and the 22 pledge that I will be making. And my goal also 23 is to work with you to ensure that we have 24 situations that are always appropriate, that we 25 are well-defined on who we are --</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 111</p>	<p>1 you will open the books in a bipartisan way to 2 ensure whether it's North Carolina or California 3 or anywhere in between, that the American people 4 can know that you are not playing politics with 5 disaster assistance? 6 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes. Senator, I'll 7 work with you in this committee to make sure I'm 8 following the federal law and ensuring that you 9 have information and transparency from us and 10 from DHS and FEMA. 11 SENATOR SLOTKIN: Thank you. 12 Appreciate it. Yield back. 13 SENATOR PAUL: Senator Lankford. 14 SENATOR LANKFORD: Governor Noem, great 15 to see you. 16 GOVERNOR NOEM: Great to see you too. 17 SENATOR LANKFORD: Thanks for being 18 here. Thanks for accepting this nod that the 19 President has given you. For, Brian, thanks. 20 Both of you, you've walked through a lot. I have 21 had the privilege of knowing you for a very long 22 time since we served together in the House of 23 Representatives, so I have the benefit of knowing 24 your qualifications and how strong you are in all 25 these background issues and how hard you work on</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 113</p>

<p>1 these things because I've seen it firsthand. So, 2 I appreciate you stepping into this because a lot 3 of attention across the country will be focused 4 on this. You know that full well and you've 5 stepped into it. For Governor Landry, my state 6 and many folks in my state are praying for you 7 and for your state. You've done a great job in 8 leadership at this moment in a very, very tough 9 time for Louisiana, and we don't want to see acts 10 of terrorism anywhere in our country and it's 11 incredibly difficult days for a governor, so 12 thanks for your leadership on that as well. I 13 also have to tell you, Kristi, I've whined to my 14 wife occasionally about the temperature that's 15 coming on Monday. I'm very excited about Trump's 16 inaugural, but we're all going to be sitting 17 outside in about 12 degrees. And I thought just 18 for fun, I would check South Dakota on Monday, 19 it's one, for a high, for a high. 20 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah, for a high. 21 SENATOR LANKFORD: And so, I'm going to 22 stop whining about the temperature Monday here in 23 Washington, D.C. on it. Look, I'm going to run 24 through a couple of things here because I know 25 you, not everybody in Oklahoma knows you. The</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 114</p>	<p>1 One app? 2 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, Senator. We will 3 eliminate the CBP One app, maintain some of the 4 data that's in it that's critical to knowing 5 who's in our country, but that app will no longer 6 be in use. 7 SENATOR LANKFORD: Thank you. No other 8 President has ever used the parole authority, 9 just in general, humanitarian parole to 10 facilitate faster processing of aliens into our 11 country, which leads to the catch and release 12 we've all heard about. So, the Oklahomans that I 13 talked to say, "Are we about to end the abuse of 14 parole and end catch and release? Is that about 15 to stop?" 16 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, President 17 Trump's been very clear that he will end catch 18 and release. 19 SENATOR LANKFORD: Terrific. Folks 20 want to know, will you use your authority with 21 the funds that are given to you by Congress to 22 actually build more wall rather than use the 23 funding that's given to you as the Biden 24 administration did to do environmental 25 remediation around the border rather than actual</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 116</p>
<p>1 questions that I get from people though in 2 Oklahoma, I want to be able to run past you 3 because they want to be able to know the answer 4 to these things, so I'm just going to blitz 5 through a whole bunch of them. Will you use the 6 legal authority that DHS already has to be able 7 to close our border? 8 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, Senator. I will 9 work with President Trump to ensure that we're 10 securing our border. 11 SENATOR LANKFORD: Thank you. There's 12 a lot of things that this Congress needs to do, 13 has already been mentioned by Senator Slotkin as 14 well, that we need you to be able to close 15 loopholes to be able to give you additional 16 authority, but there's a tremendous amount of 17 authority currently not being used in Oklahoma, 18 as you're saying, is that about to be used? And 19 they'll be grateful to be able to hear that. No 20 other President has ever created a phone app to 21 be able to facilitate a faster processing of 22 aliens in, called the CBP One app. It's been 23 mentioned several times here. Will you use your 24 authority to stop facilitating faster processing 25 of illegal aliens into our country with the CBP</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 115</p>	<p>1 border wall and border structure? 2 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah. Senator, 3 President Trump has been clear that he wants to 4 build the wall. 5 SENATOR LANKFORD: So, do we. So, will 6 you use your authority to be able to scan more 7 vehicles and obviously we've got to get you the 8 funding to be able to do this, to be able to scan 9 more vehicles and individuals that are carrying 10 Fentanyl into our country through our ports of 11 entry. 12 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, Senator. We will 13 continue to use technologies but hopefully be 14 able to use more with the resources that were 15 granted to scan those vehicles and know what's 16 coming in and out of this country. 17 SENATOR LANKFORD: Last year, FEMA 18 employees during disaster relief were instructed 19 by one of their supervisors that if they see a 20 Trump sign or a Trump flag flying to skip that 21 house, to not stop by there and tell them what 22 their federal government can do for them. Will 23 you allow FEMA employees or any within DHS to 24 politicize their role and to pick and choose who 25 gets help and who doesn't as an American?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 117</p>

<p>1 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, under 2 President Trump's administration, disaster and 3 emergency relief will not be handed out with 4 political bias. Every American will be responded 5 to and treated equally.</p> <p>6 SENATOR LANKFORD: That's what folks 7 want to know. Will you review the Secret Service 8 responsibilities to be able to go back through it 9 and to say, are they focused on their primary 10 mission or is there something you could distract? 11 Secret Service still chases down financial 12 crimes, they're still chasing down child 13 exploitation. Those are serious things for 14 Treasury or for FBI to do, but there's a question 15 is if that's the first priority for Secret 16 Service?</p> <p>17 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, the Secret 18 Service is in need of dramatic reforms. They do 19 have a protective detail element that is their 20 priority and also an investigation side. My 21 understanding is that that investigation side is 22 often used to train the protective detailed 23 officers, but clearly, they are not focusing on 24 what their true duty is, and it needs to get back 25 onto what they were created for and that was the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 118</p>	<p>1 that. Let me tell you another challenge we've 2 had with Homeland Security in the past four 3 years. When we ask for data and for information, 4 we get, "I'll get back to you on that." When we 5 ask again and again and again and again, we get 6 the same statement, "I'll get back to you on 7 that." Now, I can go down the street to the 8 command center, where they actually get the data 9 in live, and they have it up on big screens and 10 they're tracking exactly what's happening on the 11 southern border to the minute, but if I ask for 12 what happened last month, they'll say, "We're 13 still gathering that data." We're not asking for 14 anything other than what Congress is supposed to 15 get. That's the ability to be able to see data 16 and to have real oversight over DHS and that has 17 been a failure of this DHS along with multiple 18 other issues on that. When we request the data 19 for basic things like, how many special interest 20 aliens were allowed across the border.</p> <p>21 If it was last year, we had to find out 22 on our own. It was 70,000 people that were 23 targeted by this administration as a potential 24 national security risk that were not just found 25 at the border that were released when they were</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 120</p>
<p>1 protective detail, mission, and emergency 2 situations that they need to help plan and 3 prepare for and defend.</p> <p>4 SENATOR LANKFORD: Thank you. This 5 committee made a request to the Secretary of 6 Homeland Security last year, and by the way, also 7 the head of the FBI to be able to come before 8 this committee and to do what every Secretary of 9 Homeland Security has done for the last 20 years, 10 every single year, unbroken until last year. And 11 then the secretary refused to come before this 12 committee in an open session and talk about 13 national threats. Now, the former Chairman 14 protested strongly to the Biden administration 15 and DHS, they weren't coming, but they still 16 refused to be able to come. Will you come before 17 this committee and talk about the threats openly 18 so the American people can hear them in a public 19 forum?</p> <p>20 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes. Senator, Senator 21 Peters, and I discussed this quite a bit in our 22 meeting as well, and I have committed to come and 23 give that briefing to this committee and to the 24 American people.</p> <p>25 SENATOR LANKFORD: Thank you. We need</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 119</p>	<p>1 found at the border. 70,000 people just from 2 last year in the country right now that this 3 administration declared at the border, they're a 4 potential national security risk. Now, I know 5 you're not going to do that, but when we ask for 6 the data and for the information, when we say, 7 "How's the National Vetting Center working?" Do 8 you have the connection to be able to screen 9 individuals there? We're just doing our 10 oversight responsibility. You've served in 11 Congress before and did a great job on that and 12 did oversight. We want to still be able to do 13 the same thing. Will you provide data to this 14 committee so that we can cooperate with you to 15 help?</p> <p>16 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, I will follow 17 the law and be transparent with you and allow you 18 to do the due diligence towards oversight that 19 you're tasked with.</p> <p>20 SENATOR LANKFORD: I have absolutely no 21 doubt about that, Governor. I have absolutely no 22 doubt, looking forward to you serving in that 23 role.</p> <p>24 GOVERNOR NOEM: Thank you.</p> <p>25 SENATOR LANKFORD: Thank you.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 121</p>

<p>1 GOVERNOR NOEM: Thank you.</p> <p>2 SENATOR PAUL: Well, congratulations,</p> <p>3 Governor Noem. You are almost done.</p> <p>4 GOVERNOR NOEM: Okay.</p> <p>5 SENATOR PAUL: We've been through a lot</p> <p>6 of questions. I think you've handled the</p> <p>7 questions very well and I'm ask a couple of</p> <p>8 questions, and I think the ranking member has a</p> <p>9 few and I think we'll be done very shortly. I</p> <p>10 think a lot of Americans, including some</p> <p>11 conservatives misunderstand the First Amendment.</p> <p>12 They think the First Amendment says that</p> <p>13 "Facebook has to publish my opinion," or, "The</p> <p>14 Wall Street Journal has to publish my opinion,"</p> <p>15 or "We need to force them to be fair." That's</p> <p>16 not what the First Amendment's about at all.</p> <p>17 The First Amendment really doesn't</p> <p>18 apply to telling private companies what we can or</p> <p>19 cannot say. YouTube censored me and I despise</p> <p>20 their policy. They actually took down speeches I</p> <p>21 made on the floor, but really, I don't have a</p> <p>22 legal recourse other than I can complain about</p> <p>23 YouTube being unfair and not hosting both sides</p> <p>24 of an issue. However, with the government</p> <p>25 though, there is a rule. The First Amendment</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 122</p>	<p>1 who said that the pushiness, the coerciveness of</p> <p>2 government meeting with them was unprecedented</p> <p>3 and that they pushed back. But he also said</p> <p>4 worse than them just sort of telling him he</p> <p>5 should restrict speech; they also threatened him.</p> <p>6 They threatened to come after him through</p> <p>7 antitrust law, they threatened to remove parts of</p> <p>8 Section 230 of the liability protection.</p> <p>9 Just to imagine this bully nature of</p> <p>10 government, and I know you're opposed to that,</p> <p>11 but if you're confirmed and you're in a position</p> <p>12 of saying, "We're just no longer sending people</p> <p>13 to meet with media," and the way I describe it is</p> <p>14 to talk about constitutionally protected speech.</p> <p>15 Because some will say, "Oh, well, what about</p> <p>16 pornography or what about child trafficking?"</p> <p>17 Those are illegal. Those are not</p> <p>18 constitutionally protected speech. You have</p> <p>19 every ability to meet with that. But for</p> <p>20 constitutionally protected speech, will you tell</p> <p>21 us in America that you will no longer be sending</p> <p>22 government agents to meet with the media?</p> <p>23 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, Senator. I'll</p> <p>24 work with you to ensure that civil rights and</p> <p>25 liberties are protected and that we are not in</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 124</p>
<p>1 specifically says, "Congress shall pass no law</p> <p>2 banning or abridging speech," and this is what</p> <p>3 really got us worried about what, not only the</p> <p>4 FBI was doing, but the Department of Homeland</p> <p>5 Security actually meeting with these companies.</p> <p>6 SENATOR PAUL: ... on a weekly basis.</p> <p>7 And imagine the chilling effect of this, imagine</p> <p>8 that there are cameras here, that they're going</p> <p>9 to end their filming of this interview and then</p> <p>10 decide, "Well, what she said or what he said</p> <p>11 really was misinformation, and we should edit</p> <p>12 that out." Can you imagine? It's just hard for</p> <p>13 me to imagine that the media has not, which once</p> <p>14 defended the First Amendment, hasn't been in more</p> <p>15 of an uproar over the government meeting with the</p> <p>16 media to decide things. Some of this we didn't</p> <p>17 know, and then Elon Musk bought Twitter. People</p> <p>18 asked him, they said, "Well, you've paid \$44</p> <p>19 billion for Twitter. Isn't that too much?" And</p> <p>20 he said, "I paid \$44 billion to defend free</p> <p>21 speech."</p> <p>22 And it's been an amazing service, not</p> <p>23 only to open up the forum to more viewpoints, but</p> <p>24 to point out what the government was doing. In</p> <p>25 this last week, we heard from Mark Zuckerberg,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 123</p>	<p>1 the misinformation and disinformation space like</p> <p>2 the current DHS is.</p> <p>3 SENATOR PAUL: The only other thing I</p> <p>4 would ask on this basis is we will send requests,</p> <p>5 we sent requests previously, sometimes, and often</p> <p>6 bipartisan requests, for information. The</p> <p>7 Twitter files, Michael Schellenberger, Matt</p> <p>8 Taibbi, Bari Weiss did a great job of showing</p> <p>9 what was happening in Twitter and how they were</p> <p>10 cooperating with government. I think the other</p> <p>11 investigation that needs to occur is who are the</p> <p>12 people in government they were talking to? Do</p> <p>13 they still work at DHS, and can we make sure that</p> <p>14 they're not in a position of authority?</p> <p>15 And this is not something I'm going to</p> <p>16 tell you to do. It's just a request that you</p> <p>17 have your own investigation, that you have people</p> <p>18 who work for DHS to say, "We are going to look</p> <p>19 for people who are bringing their political bias</p> <p>20 to work and trying to influence speech and</p> <p>21 restrict speech based on their bias and help us</p> <p>22 in rooting that out and making sure that these</p> <p>23 people never again have that responsibility."</p> <p>24 Because I don't think there's ever been anything</p> <p>25 like this as far as the restriction of speech,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 125</p>

<p>1 and I think the election is largely going to stop 2 and tilt things the other way. But will you help 3 us by looking internally for those who are trying 4 to restrict speech?</p> <p>5 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, I look forward 6 to working with you on that mission.</p> <p>7 SENATOR PAUL: I don't have any other 8 questions now, but I think Senator Peters and 9 Senator Blumenthal, and we'll see how it goes. 10 We're going to start with Senator Peters with one 11 more five-minute round.</p> <p>12 SENATOR PETERS: Yeah, I'll be fairly 13 brief. We've had opportunity to talk at length 14 about many issues, and again, I appreciate that, 15 Governor. I just want to stress going forward, 16 and we've heard a lot of comments here, I think 17 there's been a fair amount of political theater. 18 Not as much as I know exist in other committees, 19 and I've always strived, and I know ranking 20 member or now Chairman Paul share the notion that 21 we want to be a fact-based committee and try to 22 find tangible solutions to the tough problems 23 that we face, and data is important. We've heard 24 a lot of numbers being thrown around here, and I 25 don't have time to go through and challenge those</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 126</p>	<p>1 that spirit, I hope if confirmed that is exactly 2 what you will be bringing to this office, and 3 let's move away from this toxic political 4 environment that we have in the country and 5 celebrate what's great about our country in the 6 spirit of bringing the American people together.</p> <p>7 So, I have one question before we turn 8 it over to other members. As a member of this 9 committee, as well as the Armed Services 10 Committee, I've focused a great deal on the safe 11 integration of drones in our airspace while 12 addressing the growing threats that drones 13 possess. We certainly see what drones are doing 14 in changing the face of warfare, whether it's in 15 Ukraine and other battlefields around the world. 16 We are very concerned about the weaponization of 17 those drones and what it could mean to the 18 security here in the United States. I've 19 proposed comprehensive legislation to extend 20 authorities beyond just the FBI and DOJ and 21 Homeland Security to local law enforcement.</p> <p>22 You mentioned in your comments about 23 security for the Super Bowl, which is incredibly 24 important, but we have to remember that that 25 threat exists for all games. In fact, one of the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 128</p>
<p>1 numbers. Some of them we don't even know where 2 they came from. I don't think that's helpful to 3 the very important mission of confirm that you're 4 going to be dealing with. So, I hope in the 5 future, that we're actually dealing with facts.</p> <p>6 You've mentioned many times that you do 7 want to deal with facts and real data. And 8 again, we heard a lot here that's not real data, 9 and we should not operate that way. And if 10 confirmed when we move forward, I'm going to look 11 forward to working with you based on the facts 12 and understand where the real threats are, how we 13 need to appropriate resources to make sure we're 14 meeting those threats.</p> <p>15 And let's take this hyper-partisanship 16 out of such an important issue of homeland 17 security. We have way too much partisanship in 18 this country, and it's resulted in a polarization 19 of people here. We've got to come together as 20 this country, we've got to lock arms and 21 understand that we're all proud Americans, we all 22 want to do what's best for the American people 23 and solve the issues that are before us.</p> <p>24 So, in that spirit, and certainly 25 you've communicated that spirit to me, but in</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 127</p>	<p>1 biggest supporters of my legislation is the NFL. 2 In fact, we just had a recent playoff game that 3 was delayed because of drones that flew into that 4 playoff game. We are very concerned that you 5 could have a drone with a grenade or an explosive 6 device, which would be absolutely catastrophic. 7 It's absolutely essential that we address this 8 threat. What we're seeing around the world and 9 what we're seeing in daily activities should be a 10 concern. I think this is just a matter of time. 11 It's not if, it's when, and we need to be on the 12 front end of that.</p> <p>13 And with that in mind, I want to remind 14 folks that Congress just recently extended 15 critical counter-UAS authority, counter-drone 16 authority only for a short-time basis for the 17 12th time. We only do these little, tiny short- 18 term extensions, and we aren't dealing with the 19 problem comprehensively as we should, and those 20 are going to expire on March 14th, a very short 21 time from now. And so, my question for you, 22 Governor, is if confirmed as DHS Secretary, will 23 you commit to working with me and my colleagues 24 to pass durable, long-term authorities that will 25 protect this country from what is a real threat,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 129</p>

<p>1 and it's just a matter of time? And I don't want 2 to have a horrible incident occur, and people 3 wonder why we didn't take action beforehand. So, 4 please address that.</p> <p>5 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, I look forward 6 to working with you and this committee to address 7 the threats we may face and the usage of drones 8 in this country in relation to our national 9 security interests and our homeland security 10 interests. So, thank you for bringing up the 11 conversation today, because it is one of the 12 areas within DHS that we have a responsibility to 13 address in cooperation with Congress.</p> <p>14 SENATOR PETERS: And my first comments 15 on bringing people together, please comment on 16 that.</p> <p>17 GOVERNOR NOEM: Oh, well, thank you, 18 sir. Yes, no.</p> <p>19 SENATOR PETERS: I didn't ask that 20 question, but in my 24 seconds left.</p> <p>21 GOVERNOR NOEM: I'm looking forward to 22 working with everyone, Republicans and Democrats 23 and everyone else in between, that in this 24 country that is focused on keeping America safe 25 and secure for our future. I would just point,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 130</p>	<p>1 GOVERNOR NOEM: Sure.</p> <p>2 SENATOR PETERS: So, it's data and 3 facts that we can all agree on that drive our 4 policy and not political theater. Would you 5 agree?</p> <p>6 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, certainly, sir. 7 We need to be addressing facts and information 8 rather than political theater. We also need to 9 speak truth to facts. So, I think it's important 10 that we're willing to confront our challenges 11 head on and have those conversations. And you'll 12 see me back at your office door very soon to 13 continue our work together.</p> <p>14 SENATOR PETERS: Very good. Thank you.</p> <p>15 SENATOR PAUL: And I want to second 16 basically what Senator Peters has said. On 17 records requests, I've told him, and I plan on 18 it, it's going to be administration of my party, 19 that if he wants records and there are legitimate 20 records, we're going to sign requests together, 21 and we'd like to get the records. It also helps, 22 though, and I think Senator Lankford mentioned 23 this, is you ask a question, not you, but to the 24 administration or any administration, they're 25 like, "Oh, yeah. We'll get back to you on it."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 132</p>
<p>1 Senator, to my background and my history. When I 2 came to Congress, I worked with Republicans and 3 Democrats on both sides of the aisle on many 4 pieces of legislation and was very happy to do so 5 and focus on priorities on where we could 6 agreement, knowing we may disagree on some 7 issues, but there was areas where we could keep 8 the federal government accountable and do due 9 diligence by the people that pay their taxes and 10 get up and go to work every single day. As 11 governor, as well. I was governor for every 12 single person in the state of South Dakota, and 13 they were my number one priority, and everyone 14 knew there that it didn't matter if you were 15 Republican or Democrat, that my focus was on them 16 and keeping our state thriving and free.</p> <p>17 So, I look forward to continuing the 18 work that I always have to be coming up with 19 solutions and in a bipartisan manner, and 20 hopefully, my visits to your office and 21 conversations reflected that and my intention on 22 how I would conduct the role as the Department of 23 Homeland Security Secretary.</p> <p>24 SENATOR PETERS: Got a brief follow up 25 to that.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 131</p>	<p>1 Many times, I've even asked in advance, and I 2 would suggest that we ask you in advance 3 together, we ask in advance, "If you're coming in 4 a month, we say we want this data. Be prepared 5 to talk about it." And if you are, you'll have 6 many more friends on both sides because what 7 usually happens, and that's why I don't like 8 springing the question. If it's a technical 9 question that needs data, we're going to tell you 10 in advance, at least I will, and we want you to 11 come prepared with that.</p> <p>12 And that goes a long way, because 13 really what happens is we get stiff-armed. They 14 say, "We'll get back to you," and we have no way 15 to force you, really, other than we could cut the 16 money off, and nobody ever does that. But you'll 17 have 200,000 people working for you. By 18 goodness, send your experts out, scour the 19 records. And it is true, facts are difficult, 20 and sometimes, there's different spins on the 21 same set of facts, but I think that will help.</p> <p>22 On the drones, I think we need more 23 facts. So, I'm more than willing to work with 24 the ranking member on doing something on drones, 25 but I don't want every sheriff out there shooting</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 133</p>

<p>1 up in the sky at stuff. We got to figure out and 2 we got to get the truth about do we really have 3 drones everywhere flying all the time? How many 4 of them are planes? How many of them are drones? 5 And let's go through this, and then let's figure 6 out, and then let's talk about how we bring 7 drones down. If we interrupt and collect a lot 8 of cellular signal through that, are we doing it 9 with a warrant? What are we going to do with all 10 the Americans' data that we've collected to take 11 down drones? If we have to take a whole cell 12 towers worth of data, there's a lot of innocent 13 people's data is going to be collected in that. 14 Is that being gotten rid of? So, I think there 15 are ways we can get to the right place. 16 Everybody, obviously nobody wants drones coming 17 down. 18 The only other thing I'd add on drones 19 before I turn it over to Senator Lankford is 20 look, I'm all for the NFL being protected and the 21 Super Bowl being protected. They need to pay. 22 They are a very rich organization. They want 23 drones flying over in New Orleans. I'm all for 24 it. The NFL ought to pay the government if the 25 government's doing it, or we ought to have</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 134</p>	<p>1 have felt like they've been sidelined, and 2 they've not been able to do their job that they 3 really signed up for. And what I'm hearing from 4 you is you're going to allow them to do their job 5 again, what has been historically true for a long 6 time, that federal law enforcement is there to 7 actually help protect the country and the 8 citizens and those communities, that you're going 9 to allow them to do that, and that's helpful. 10 So, I have two quick things that I want 11 to be able to mention on this. One is right now, 12 just in the structure of this, and we can talk 13 about this a different time, but CBP facilities 14 that are along the border are really run by a 15 different entity called GSA, and they're not 16 allowed to be able to do updates on their 17 facilities or to design their facilities. 18 Somebody who lives 3,000 miles away and who 19 doesn't actually do border patrol work, they 20 actually design and oversee their facilities. 21 That's a problem that we've got to be able to 22 fix. 23 So, we've worked to be able to give 24 more flexibility to CBP that when they have 25 difficulty and challenges there, they have the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 136</p>
<p>1 private contractors doing it, but they shouldn't 2 just get it for free. Senator Lankford. 3 SENATOR LANKFORD: Thank you. Thanks, 4 again. As Senator Paul will remember on this, 5 there used to be a public facing website that all 6 Americans could actually get the data, what's 7 happening on the border, what's actually moving, 8 and then when the numbers got bad, that seemed to 9 disappear, and then we couldn't even get the data 10 anymore. So, I look forward to actually finding 11 ways to be able to have everybody has the ability 12 to be able to see some of this data as well on 13 it. 14 There's a reason that the DHS Secretary 15 is the very first week of nominations. This is a 16 really important role, and it is a non-partisan 17 role. It is a national security role, and we're 18 grateful that you've stepped into this, but it is 19 important that we actually get you on the task to 20 be able to make sure that it's out there. 21 You mentioned earlier in your testimony 22 that we do have a morale problem at DHS right 23 now, and I think a lot of that is because people 24 that signed up to be federal law enforcement to 25 be able to protect the United States of America</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 135</p>	<p>1 ability to be able to make those changes. But 2 I'm not going to ask you to make a commitment to 3 this, because this is just one of those detail 4 areas, but will you commit in the future to 5 working with us, that this committee and you can 6 work together to be able to figure out how the 7 folks that are on the field can actually make 8 decisions about the facilities they work in? 9 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah. Senator, I 10 commit to working with you on that issue. 11 SENATOR LANKFORD: Terrific. And then 12 I had a constituent in Oklahoma that is a hunter, 13 like you are, like I am. He had a bag that he 14 had some additional rounds that were in his bag 15 that were left over from a hunting trip months 16 before. He packed his bag, went on a vacation 17 trip overseas, went through security with his 18 bag. When he got overseas and then left and came 19 back, they scanned his bag and said, "You have 20 bullets, you have rounds in your bag," and he had 21 I think five that were in his bag, that he didn't 22 even remember were left over in an outside pocket 23 from a hunting trip before. 24 Well, they promptly put him in jail and 25 held him there and detained him there. Now, we</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 137</p>

<p>1 worked through all the process to be able to get 2 him back. My question is that same bag went 3 through TSA security in my state before it went 4 through security overseas. And so, one of the 5 questions that I've asked is why were those 6 rounds picked up there and not here? 7 Now, we don't have the full answer to 8 that yet, but that's just one of those TSA 9 questions that we need to have. Americans right 10 now are on planes all over the country, and they 11 count on a certain level of security when they go 12 through that process. So, in the days ahead, 13 will you work with me to be able to identify what 14 are the challenges that we still face with the 15 screening process and to be able to correct those 16 for the security of all Americans? 17 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, Senator, I will 18 work with you on that. 19 SENATOR LANKFORD: Thank you. 20 GOVERNOR NOEM: I was surprised TSA 21 didn't come up more today, but that is an area in 22 need of reform as well, and I look forward to 23 working with you there. 24 SENATOR LANKFORD: Look forward to 25 that. Thank you. I yield back.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 138</p>	<p>1 border security, generally. We know we need to 2 provide some kind of path to earn citizenship for 3 a lot of the undocumented people in this country, 4 and we know it's possible, because we did it in 5 2013. 6 The United States Senate, as you will 7 recall, passed a comprehensive immigration reform 8 measure. Overwhelmingly, it was bipartisan. I 9 was proud to be a part of it, going through the 10 Judiciary Committee, but obviously it will 11 involve Homeland Security, and I hope that we can 12 continue, as Senator Lankford was a part of the 13 effort in the last session to expand on those 14 efforts and move forward on a bipartisan basis 15 toward bipartisan comprehensive immigration 16 reform. 17 I want to talk to you a little bit 18 about domestic terrorism, which we discussed 19 during my previous round, and I know you've 20 discussed it afterward, including not just 21 migrant crime and radicalization by ISIS, which 22 are real and present problems, I also want to ask 23 you about domestic terrorism events unrelated to 24 groups outside our borders. We've seen a rise in 25 antisemitism in this country. It has spiked</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 140</p>
<p>1 SENATOR PAUL: Government needs a 2 healthy dose of common sense. Bullets in your 3 bag. I had a guy with bullets in the back of his 4 pickup truck coming back from Mexico. We 5 arrested him and took his truck, and only because 6 the Institute of Justice fought for him for three 7 years that he get his truck back. That's crazy, 8 the things we do. Let's have some common sense, 9 and hopefully, someone overseeing it will allow 10 that. Senator Blumenthal, you're going to finish 11 us up. 12 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: Thank you, 13 Chairman Paul. I'm the last of your questioners, 14 so that means I get unlimited amounts of time. 15 GOVERNOR NOEM: Okay. 16 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: Not really. Not 17 even close. I want to sort of continue the 18 emphasis on bipartisanship and most especially on 19 immigration reform. What this nation needs is 20 comprehensive immigration reform. We know about 21 the need for more H-1B visas and other kinds of 22 extensions of the visa program that enable the 23 United States to have more workers that are 24 desperately needed in certain areas of our 25 country. We know that there has to be better</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 139</p>	<p>1 beyond any prediction, and I want to know of your 2 concern with antisemitist, racist events, 3 Charlottesville, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, there's a 4 shorthand for these violent terrorist acts 5 against people in the United States. 6 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, Senator, I'm very 7 concerned about what we've seen in this country 8 as far as antisemitic violence that has happened. 9 In fact, last year during our legislative 10 session, I brought legislation to more clearly 11 define it so that we could fight it in our home 12 state. And I'm hopeful I can work with you to 13 continue to do what we can to make sure that we 14 are addressing this rising threat and not 15 facilitating it in this country. 16 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: And I just want to 17 make sure that when you say we're protecting 18 Americans against terrorism, that we're 19 protecting all Americans, including people in 20 mosques, in churches, in synagogues, people 21 regardless of their worship, their race, their 22 background. We need to protect all Americans 23 from antisemitism, racism, Islamophobia. I hope 24 you'll commit to that effort. 25 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yes, correct. Thank</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 141</p>

<p>1 you, Senator, and I look forward to working with 2 you to do that.</p> <p>3 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: In my closing 4 minute-and-a-half, I just want to call your 5 attention to an effort that I've led to help 6 reunite children with their parents, children who 7 were separated as a result of the so-called 8 family separation policy. In the last 9 administration, I have introduced a measure 10 called Keep Families Together, not only to limit 11 separation of families at or near ports of entry, 12 but also the Families Belong Together Act for 13 several Congresses to help bring the children, 14 the kids who were victims of this policy and who 15 still are not back with their parents. I hope 16 that you will support that kind of effort.</p> <p>17 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, the Trump 18 administration never had a family separation 19 policy. They had a zero-tolerance policy, which 20 said that our laws would be followed. What I'm 21 alarmed by is the over 300,000 children that went 22 missing during the Biden administration. And 23 when we talk about children and what they're 24 potentially facing as far as victimization in 25 this country and the trafficking that's going on,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 142</p>	<p>1 to keep families together. We will uphold our 2 law, and we'll make sure that we're doing 3 everything we can to keep our children safe from 4 the trafficking and the drug epidemic that's hit 5 this country.</p> <p>6 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: I'm going to end 7 on an optimistic note and say I take that as a 8 yes.</p> <p>9 GOVERNOR NOEM: Yeah.</p> <p>10 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: Thank you, Mr. 11 Chairman.</p> <p>12 SENATOR PAUL: Thank you for your 13 testimony. The nominee has filed responses to 14 biographical and financial questionnaires, 15 answered prehearing questions submitted by the 16 committee, and had their financial statements 17 reviewed by the Office of Government Ethics. 18 Without objection, this information will be part 19 of the hearing record with the exception of the 20 financial data, which are on file and available 21 for public inspection in the committee offices. 22 The hearing will remain open until 5:00 p.m. 23 today, Friday, January 17th for the submission of 24 statements and questions.</p> <p>25 For the record, this hearing is</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 144</p>
<p>1 this administration's lack of desire to find out 2 where those children are or what they may be 3 going through is alarming to me. So, I want to 4 stop that.</p> <p>5 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: Well, because my 6 time is expiring, I'm just going to interrupt 7 again with apologies to say let's put aside ...</p> <p>8 GOVERNOR NOEM: Well, I can't put aside 9 340,000 children.</p> <p>10 SENATOR BLUMENTHAL: Let's put aside 11 the labels, let's put aside what happened in the 12 past. There are still a thousand children who 13 are separated and waiting to be reunited. I'd 14 like your commitment that you're going to 15 continue the effort to reunite them with their 16 parents.</p> <p>17 GOVERNOR NOEM: Senator, keeping 18 families together is critically important to me 19 and to this country. I'm concerned about Laken 20 Riley's family, that they no longer have her. 21 I'm concerned about the fact that we have people 22 in this country that don't know where their 23 children are or people in other countries who 24 sent their children here and they've been lost by 25 this administration. So, yes, my focus will be</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 143</p>	<p>1 adjourned.</p> <p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>4</p> <p>5</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9</p> <p>10</p> <p>11</p> <p>12</p> <p>13</p> <p>14</p> <p>15</p> <p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 145</p>

<div>1 CERTIFICATION</div> <div>2 I, Sonya Ledanski Hyde, certify that the</div> <div>3 foregoing transcript is a true and accurate</div> <div>4 record of the proceedings.</div> <div>5</div> <div>6 <u><i>Sonya M. Ledanski Hyde</i></u></div> <div>7</div> <div>8</div> <div>9</div> <div>10 Veritext Legal Solutions</div> <div>11 330 Old Country Road</div> <div>12 Suite 300</div> <div>13 Mineola, NY 11501</div> <div>14</div> <div>15 Date: February 17, 2025</div> <div>16</div> <div>17</div> <div>18</div> <div>19</div> <div>20</div> <div>21</div> <div>22</div> <div>23</div> <div>24</div> <div>25</div> <div>Page 146</div>	

Exhibit 18

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

Jan. 29, 2025 Fox & Friends Interview
Interview with Homeland Security Secretary Kristi
Noem

<p>1 MAN 1: Newly Admitted Homeland 2 Security Secretary Kristi Noem is hitting the 3 ground running, enforcing President Trump's 4 immigration agenda. 5 AINSLEY: Joining federal agencies here 6 in New York City, Noem says, "Among those 7 arrested, was the ringleader of that vicious 8 Venezuelan gang, Tren de Aragua." 9 MAN 1: And now, she has a big 10 announcement. On additional measures, DHS is 11 ready to take in. This is a Fox & Friends 12 exclusive. 13 MAN 2: That's right. So, Secretary 14 Kristi Noem joins us right now. Madam Secretary, 15 good morning and congratulations. 16 LAWRENCE: Welcome. 17 KRISTI NOEM: Good morning. Thank you. 18 It's wonderful to be with all of you. 19 MAN 2: Okay. The exclusive 20 announcement is, we are withdrawing the 21 Venezuelan temporary status directive. What -- I 22 remember when (indiscernible) through. What does 23 that mean? 24 KRISTI NOEM: Well, before he left 25 town, (indiscernible) signed an order that said,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p>	<p>1 against these ICE raids. I don't get it. But 2 here's some of the comments from these Democratic 3 leaders. 4 MAYOR BRANDON JOHNSON: Stand together 5 firmly in our welcoming city status. The type of 6 fear that this Administration is trying to 7 incite, we are demonstrating that we are going to 8 protect the residents of this city. 9 NEW YORK ATTORNEY GENERAL LETITIA 10 JAMES: It is performative theater, and it's 11 nothing more than shock and awe. 12 ILLINOIS GOVERNOR J.B. PRITZKER: Our 13 local law enforcement will stand up for those 14 law-abiding, undocumented people in our state. 15 MAN 3: Law-abiding. 16 AINSLEY: The message that I'm hearing 17 from them -- I know. The message I'm hearing 18 from them is, "We want to protect the rapist 19 that's here illegally. We want to protect that 20 person that was arrested over the last few days 21 that has ties to ISIS. We want to protect the 22 man who allegedly murdered his girlfriend who was 23 pregnant and a mother of two." What does your -- 24 why are they -- why do they have a problem with 25 arresting these career criminals that are here</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p>
<p>1 for 18 months, they were going to extend this 2 protection to people that are in temporary 3 protected status, which meant they were going to 4 be able to stay here and violate our laws for 5 another 18 months and we stopped that. Today we 6 signed an executive order within the Department 7 of Homeland Security in a direction that we were 8 not going to follow through on what he did to tie 9 our hands, that we are going to follow the 10 process, evaluate all of these individuals that 11 are in our country, including the Venezuelans 12 that are here and members of TDA. Listen, I was 13 in New York City yesterday and the people of this 14 country want these dirt bags out. They want 15 their communities to be safe. It was so amazing 16 to me to see people walk by us on the street, 17 early in the morning and just say, "Thank you. 18 Thank you for being here." So, this part of our 19 plan to make sure that we're protecting America, 20 keeping it safe again, just like President Trump 21 promised. 22 AINSLEY: There are some -- 23 LAWRENCE: Some -- go ahead, Ainsley. 24 AINSLEY: Thank you, Lawrence. There's 25 some Democratic leaders that are pushing back</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p>	<p>1 illegally? 2 KRISTI NOEM: They're completely out of 3 touch with the people in their cities and 4 communities. That's exactly what these Democrat 5 leaders are saying is, "We want to protect the 6 cartels. We want to protect the gangs. We want 7 to make sure that people continue to die from 8 guns, violence and drugs." And it's wrong and 9 they're going to find out very soon that their 10 communities are not with them. 11 And listen, yesterday, we picked up one 12 of the ringleaders of TDA. He had just been a 13 part of a gun -- weapons exchange and was trying 14 to buy grenades. Why would anybody in this 15 country need to buy a grenade and go out and 16 perpetuate violence? He was one of those that 17 was involved in Colorado, in Aurora, and we're so 18 thankful we got him off the streets. And what 19 I've continuously said to people is, you know, 20 what do you say to Laken Riley's family? 21 LAWRENCE: That's right. 22 KRISTI NOEM: We're going to sign that 23 bill today into law. The President will, in the 24 Oval Office, to make sure we're going after these 25 criminals. But the President is taking action</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p>

<p>1 and what was amazing is, you'll hear people and 2 Democrat leaders in different cities, like New 3 York City, some of their City Council members 4 have tried to attack what we're doing as far as 5 enforcing our laws. But the people on the 6 streets are not with them. It was amazing to 7 hear people and see them as they walked by taking 8 their kids to school, going to work, just walk by 9 us and quietly say, "Thank you. Thank you for 10 being here." And it means the world to those 11 officers that are out there risking their lives 12 to bring safety back.</p> <p>13 LAWRENCE: So, Madam Secretary, you 14 guys -- your men and women and doing a fantastic 15 job. It's a dangerous job. Those fugitive task 16 force, it's risky business. It's easy in the 17 sense, from a PR perspective, to get the 18 criminals. No-one wants, unless you're deranged, 19 want the criminals on the street, the violent 20 criminals. What I worry about is the PR when you 21 guys go to the next layer, people that have 22 overstayed their visas or work doing other jobs. 23 How do you guys overcome that? Because you've 24 been in politics for a long time. American 25 people can be fickle. They support something at</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p>	<p>1 judges, getting those kind of resources through 2 Congress is important, to make sure we're not 3 just securing the border, we're deporting these 4 dangerous individuals, and then, fixing our 5 broken system.</p> <p>6 MAN 3: And also, legal work visas for 7 the construction industry.</p> <p>8 KRISTI NOEM: Yes.</p> <p>9 MAN 3: And other things like that 10 because there's people with great work ethics. 11 Real quick, what are you going to do with the 12 Venezuelans, the Cubans, when these countries 13 don't want to take them back? You've got 607,000 14 Venezuelans here. What do we do?</p> <p>15 KRISTI NOEM: Well, we have a fantastic 16 Secretary of State in Secretary Rubio, and he has 17 been doing incredible work. You know, the other 18 night, I was talking to him on the phone at 1 19 o'clock in the morning, and he was up and still 20 discussing negotiations with other countries and 21 working with those people in these countries to 22 do diplomatic relations. And the President 23 clearly will exercise all the authority and power 24 that he has to make these countries take them 25 back, so we --</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p>
<p>1 one point and then the news media puts a crying 2 child or someone on TV and they change. So, how 3 are you all going to handle that portion?</p> <p>4 KRISTI NOEM: I think we keep talking 5 to people and talk to them about the fact that 6 this is an America where justice is applied 7 equally. You know, we can't say that American 8 citizens have to follow the law and then say that 9 people from the other countries don't have to. 10 You know, we choose laws, we put them in place, 11 Congress has the chance to change the law. But 12 until then, our job is to enforce it. And when 13 you want to live in a country where everybody's 14 treated the same and fairly and equally and has a 15 chance to live the American dream. So, we 16 understand that there are some families who have 17 been here illegally and have been perpetuating 18 that. That's a discussion that we're going to 19 have to continue to have and see if we can fix 20 our legal immigration system, as well. That's 21 one of my jobs is, you know, not only are we 22 going after those that are here illegally, but we 23 have to do due diligence and making sure we have 24 the resources to process paperwork in a timely 25 manner. And so, more immigration courts and</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p>	<p>1 MAN 3: Are you ruling out Gitmo?</p> <p>2 KRISTI NOEM: Oh, yeah. We're 3 evaluating and talking about that right now. So, 4 it's the President's decision, but it's an asset 5 and we're going to continue to look at how we can 6 use all of our assets to keep America safe.</p> <p>7 MAN 1: What a whirlwind it must have 8 bene for you over the last week or so. Krisi 9 Noem, Secretary of Homeland Security.</p> <p>10 LAWRENCE: Congratulations, by the way.</p> <p>11 MAN 1: Thank you very much.</p> <p>12 KRISTI NOEM: Thank you.</p> <p>13 MAN 3: She won over Democrats in our 14 (indiscernible)</p> <p>15 LAWRENCE: That's exactly right.</p> <p>16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p>

<p>1 CERTIFICATION</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 I, Sonya Ledanski Hyde, certify that the</p> <p>4 foregoing transcript is a true and accurate</p> <p>5 record of the proceedings.</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>8</p> <p>9 <u>Sonya M. Ledanski Hyde</u></p> <p>10</p> <p>11 Veritext Legal Solutions</p> <p>12 330 Old Country Road</p> <p>13 Suite 300</p> <p>14 Mineola, NY 11501</p> <p>15</p> <p>16 Date: February 18, 2025</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p>Page 10</p>	

Exhibit 19

LIVE TV | Elizabeth Vargas Reports

Trump on Springfield Haitian migrants: 'They have to be removed'

- Springfield, Ohio, has seen an influx of Haitian migrants
- Immigrants living there under temporary protected status
- Trump has made false claims about Haitian immigrants eating pets



[Damita Menezes](#), [Ali Bradley](#)

Updated: OCT 2, 2024 / 09:41 PM CDT

Not sure how to find NewsNation on your TV? **Find your channel here.** Get 24/7 fact-based unbiased news coverage with the **NewsNation app**.

Former President Donald Trump spoke with Ali Bradley, who leads NewsNation's daily coverage of the border. Follow [Ali on X](#) and [click here to download the NewsNation app](#) to see exclusive reporting from the border every day.

The Republican nominee was at a private fundraiser in Texas when he addressed the [situation in Springfield](#), telling NewsNation border reporter Ali Bradley that 32,000 Haitian migrants had been relocated to a community of 52,000 residents.

Trump told NewsNation he believes Haiti would accept the migrants back under his leadership.

"It has nothing to do with Haiti or anything else. You have to remove the people, and you have to bring them back to their own country," he said.

"Springfield is such a beautiful place. Have you seen what's happened to it? It's been overrun. You can't do that to people. I'd revoke (the protected status), and I'd bring (the migrants) back to their country."

Voter Guide 2024: Breaking down the candidates, policies and issues

The comments come after Trump's running mate, Republican Ohio Sen. [JD Vance](#), revisited false claims he made about [immigrants in Springfield, Ohio](#) eating pets, saying now he is "concerned for the American citizens" in the city.

"In Springfield, and communities across this country, you have schools that are overwhelmed, housing that is totally unaffordable because we brought in millions of illegal immigrants to compete with Americans for scarce homes," Vance said while debating Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, his Democratic opponent, in the election's only vice presidential debate.

Trump calls Jack Smith filing 'pure election interference'

Enabling and protecting border law enforcement

The former president told NewsNation he would enable local law enforcement to execute what he calls the largest deportation in American history and potentially deploy military forces to [combat drug cartels](#).

Trump said border agents "know everything about [migrants] ... they know the good ones, the bad ones, and they're going to get them out."

Addressing cartel violence along the southern border, Trump proposed a "military operation" to counter increasingly sophisticated tactics by Mexican drug organizations, which reportedly now [employ drone jammers](#) and have been found with rocket-propelled grenades and improvised explosive devices near the border.

"They're very rich, and they're very evil," Trump said of the cartels. "We're going to have to get in some military action. ... They're killing 300,000 people a year."

Exclusive: Mexican cartels using devices to disrupt U.S. drones

The [Sinaloa and Jalisco cartels](#) have established a sophisticated supply chain, sourcing precursor chemicals from China and manufacturing fentanyl in clandestine Mexican labs before smuggling it across the U.S. border, according to Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reports.

Mexican drug cartels operating along the U.S.-Mexico border are [using electronic devices](#) to disrupt drones being used by U.S. border officials to track immigrants who crossed into the United States illegally, NewsNation learned.

In [September 2023](#), Border Patrol agents in Texas discovered a backpack with what appeared to be cannonball-sized IEDs. It wasn't the first time the U.S. government had found potential explosive devices at the border.

In May 2023, [NewsNation reported](#) border officials recovered a rudimentary device created using an M&M container that was bound with electrical tape.

The former president also praised GOP Texas Governor Greg Abbott's border initiatives but maintained that border security ultimately requires federal action, stating, "All you have to do if you're the president is say to the Border Patrol and to the states, 'Nobody come in, it's closed.'"

Trump predicted he would win New Mexico because of the southern border. Trump lost the state in 2020 by about 11 points and in 2016 by about 8 points.

Houston teens carjack driver to smuggle migrants

How many people are crossing the border?

U.S. Border Patrol arrests along the Southwest border rose slightly from July to August but remained among the Biden administration's lowest monthly numbers.

According to U.S. Customs and Border Protection [data](#), agents had 58,038 encounters between ports of entry in August, up from 56,399 in July.

The actual number of encounters at America's borders is expected to reach about 10 million by the end of the fiscal year, including repeat crossings and deportations.

These encounters include repeat crossings and deportations, which means the actual number of unique individuals entering the country is much lower.

Walz, Vance spar on immigration

One of Trump's key promises if reelected is to mount the [largest domestic deportation](#) in U.S. history. He made similar promises when he first ran for office, but during his administration, deportations never topped 350,000.

For comparison, then-President Barack Obama carried out 432,000 deportations in 2013, the highest annual total since records were kept.

This time, Trump has given some more specifics on his promises. He said he'll use the National Guard to round up migrants. And he said he would invoke the Alien Enemies Act, a 1798 law that allows the president to deport any noncitizen from a country that the U.S. is at war with.

He's also vowed to kick out hundreds of thousands of immigrants who have [entered the country](#) under two key Biden administration programs if he's reelected.

Any mass deportation plans would certainly be challenged in court and be enormously expensive to carry out. And it would depend on countries' willingness to take back their citizens.

Trump also said he would bring back policies he had put in place during his first term, like the Remain in Mexico program and Title 42. [Remain in Mexico](#) made migrants wait in Mexico while their asylum cases were heard, while Title 42 curbed immigration on public health grounds.

He has said he'll revive and expand a travel ban from his term that originally targeted citizens from seven Muslim-majority countries and pledged new "ideological screening" for immigrants to bar "dangerous lunatics, haters, bigots and maniacs."

Trump also seeks to end birthright citizenship for people born in the U.S. whose parents are both in the country illegally.

DHS increases time for new asylum regulations

Why is the border a top voter issue?

Making the border safer and other immigration-related issues remain among the biggest concerns for voters heading into the 2024 election. Trump has used the border as a backdrop for a series of campaign stops in recent months.

Trump has repeatedly criticized [President Joe Biden](#) and Harris, claiming that the president and his "border czar" are to blame for the steady amounts of migrants and for the trouble that Trump has alleged has come specifically from the illegal border crossings.

The president has countered with the effectiveness [of his executive order](#), which led to a drop in the number of border encounters after a [record 250,000 encounters](#) were reported in December 2023 alone.

Political gridlock on border policy

In June 2024, [Biden released a series of executive actions](#) capping migrant crossing until border encounters remain consistently low — [under 2,500 per day](#) for an entire week — to give Border Patrol more time to handle each migrant’s situation.

The president also [clarified his use of executive powers](#), saying he was doing what Congress would not about a bipartisan immigration deal that failed in the Senate after Trump urged GOP lawmakers to vote against it.

NewsNation’s Jeff Arnold and The Associated Press contributed to this report.

2024 ELECTION

Copyright 2025 Nexstar Media Inc. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed.

TRENDING ON NEWSNATION

- 1

2 hours ago

Student Loans: Ed Dept pauses plan to garnish Social Security benefits
- 2

Grant Hardin believed to be in same area as prison escape
- 3

1 hour ago

Here are the celebrities named in Diddy's trial so far
- 4

2 hours ago

Boulder attacker charged with hate crime, attempted murder
- 5

Loretta Swit, who played Houlihan on TV series 'M.A.S.H.,' has died at 87

Who is Boulder attack suspect Mohamed Soliman?

MORE STORIES

BORDER REPORT 5 mins ago



3 charged in scheme to smuggle Pakistani, Peruvian, Mexican migrants

SPORTS HEADLINES 7 mins ago



Wander Franco trial: Rays star faces sexual abuse, human trafficking charges in Dominican Republic

AP U.S. NEWS 12 mins ago



Stabbing attack at Oregon homeless shelter sends 11 people to hospital, man in custody



Trial for Tampa Bay Rays shortstop Wander Franco begins in Dominican Republic



Top Trump officials visit prolific Alaska oil field amid push to expand drilling

POLITICS 27 mins ago



U.S. 28 mins ago



Nadler demands congressional investigation into DHS detention of staffer

IMMIGRATION 30 mins ago



DHS revamps ICE tip line after Colorado attacks

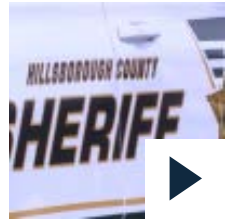
SPORTS 39 mins ago



Longtime WWE wrestler announces release from company

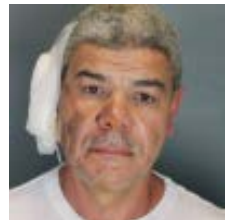
CRIME 48 mins ago

Secret recording leads to Fla. 13-year-old's rescue: sheriff



AP U.S. NEWS 47 mins ago

Suspect posed as a gardener in Boulder attack and planned to kill all in group he called 'Zionist'



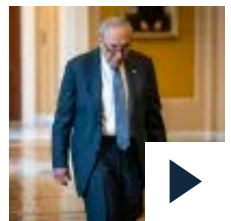
SOUTHEAST 50 mins ago

Woman attacked with hot coffee at hotel, police make arrest



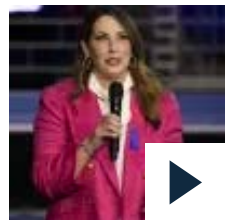
U.S. 55 mins ago

Schumer vows to fight GOP megabill 'with everything we've got'



POLITICS 1 hour ago

Why Ronna McDaniel wants to make Michigan 'reliably red'



ease?



SPORTS HEADLINES 2 hours ago

Journalism opens as the Belmont favorite. Kentucky Derby winner Sovereignty is the 2nd choice



EDUCATION 2 hours ago

Student Loans: Ed Dept pauses plan to garnish Social Security benefits



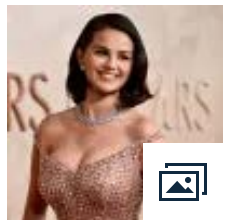
AP U.S. NEWS 2 hours ago

Supreme Court to hear private prison company appeal in suit over immigration detainee \$1-a-day wages



ENTERTAINMENT

Selena Gomez's net worth could be just short of \$1B



a predatory teacher



AP U.S. NEWS

Romanian man pleads guilty to ‘swatting’ plot that targeted an ex-US president and lawmakers



Exhibit 21

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

February 2, 2025 Meet the Press
Kristen Welker's Opening Sequence
Interviews with Department of Homeland
Security Secretary Kristi Noem, Missouri Senator
Eric Schmitt and Arizona Senator Mark Kelly
Panel Discussion

<p>1 KRISTEN WELKER: This Sunday: Trump's 2 tariffs. President Trump issues tariffs on 3 America's largest trading partners, threatening 4 to drive up prices for American consumers. 5 Mexico and Canada swiftly vowing to retaliate. 6 PRIME MINISTER JUSTIN TRUDEAU: Tariffs 7 against Canada will put your jobs at risk. They 8 will raise costs for you. 9 KRISTEN WELKER: Is this the start of a 10 global trade war? Plus: searching for answers. 11 JENNIFER HOMENDY: We are going to 12 conduct a thorough investigation of this entire 13 tragedy looking at the facts. 14 KRISTEN WELKER: As federal 15 investigators hunt for answers in the deadly 16 plane crash over the Potomac River, President 17 Trump shifts to blaming diversity policies, air 18 traffic controllers and his political rivals. 19 PRES. DONALD TRUMP: I put safety 20 first. Obama, Biden and the Democrats put policy 21 first. 22 SEC. SEAN DUFFY: We can only accept 23 the best and the brightest. 24 SEC. PETE HEGSETH: The era of DEI is 25 gone at the Defense Department.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p>	<p>1 ANNOUNCER: From NBC News in 2 Washington, the longest-running show in 3 television history, this is Meet the Press with 4 Kristen Welker. 5 KRISTEN WELKER: Good Sunday morning. 6 After just two weeks in office, President Trump 7 is waging battles across the globe and inside his 8 own government. Overnight, he imposed tariffs on 9 America's three largest trading partners. They 10 are already hitting back, raising fears of a 11 trade war. The president is also facing the 12 first crisis of his second term in office: the 13 worst aviation disaster in a generation, after an 14 Army Black Hawk helicopter and American Airlines 15 plane crashed above Washington. There were no 16 survivors and 67 people died in the crash. On 17 Thursday, after a moment of silence, President 18 Trump pivoted to politics, suggesting without 19 evidence that diversity and inclusion policies 20 contributed to the crash. 21 [BEGIN TAPE] 22 PRES. DONALD TRUMP: The FAA is 23 actively recruiting workers who suffer severe 24 intellectual disabilities, psychiatric problems 25 and other mental and physical conditions under a</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p>
<p>1 KRISTEN WELKER: And cabinet battles. 2 ROBERT F. KENNEDY JR.: Senator, I 3 support vaccines. 4 SEN. MICHAEL BENNET: This is a job 5 where it is life and death. 6 SEN JAMES LANKFORD: Was Edward Snowden 7 a traitor? 8 TULSI GABBARD: My heart is with my 9 commitment to our constitution. 10 KASH PATEL: I would never do anything 11 unconstitutional or unlawful. 12 KRISTEN WELKER: President Trump's most 13 controversial nominees face off on Capitol Hill, 14 but will they all be confirmed? My guests this 15 morning: Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem, 16 Republican Senator Eric Schmitt of Missouri and 17 Democratic Senator Mark Kelly of Arizona. 18 Joining me for insight and analysis are NBC News 19 Senior White House Correspondent Kelly O'Donnell, 20 NBC News Chief Capitol Hill Correspondent Ryan 21 Nobles, Marc Short, former director of 22 legislative affairs to President Trump and former 23 Democratic Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy of 24 Florida. Welcome to Sunday. It's Meet the 25 Press.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p>	<p>1 diversity and inclusion hiring initiative spelled 2 out on the agency's website. Can you imagine? 3 REPORTER: You have, today, blamed the 4 diversity element, but then told us that you 5 weren't sure that the controllers made any 6 mistake. You then said perhaps the helicopter 7 pilots were the ones who – 8 PRES. DONALD TRUMP: Yeah. 9 REPORTER: -- made the mistake – 10 PRES. DONALD TRUMP: It's all under 11 investigation. 12 REPORTER: I understand that. That's 13 why I'm trying to figure out how you can come to 14 the conclusion right now that diversity had 15 something to do with this crash. 16 PRES. DONALD TRUMP: Because I have 17 common sense, okay? And unfortunately, a lot of 18 people don't. 19 [END TAPE] 20 KRISTEN WELKER: According to the FAA 21 and other aviation groups, all candidates seeking 22 to become air traffic controllers and pilots have 23 to go through years of rigorous training and 24 testing, and meet the same exceedingly high 25 standards. As Washington was responding to the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p>

<p>1 tragedy, President Trump's three most vulnerable 2 cabinet picks were testifying on Capitol Hill. 3 Now, multiple sources tell NBC News there is 4 growing concern in the White House and among 5 Republicans that Tulsi Gabbard's nomination for 6 director of national intelligence could be in 7 serious trouble after her confirmation hearing in 8 which she didn't directly answer whether Edward 9 Snowden, who leaked government secrets, is a 10 traitor. 11 [BEGIN TAPE] 12 SEN. JAMES LANKFORD: Was he -- was he 13 a traitor at the time when he took America's 14 secret to release them in public and then ran to 15 China and became a Russian citizen? 16 TULSI GABBARD: Senator, I'm focused on 17 the future and how we can prevent something like 18 this from happening again. 19 SEN. MICHAEL BENNET: Was Edward 20 Snowden a traitor to the United States of 21 America? 22 TULSI GABBARD: Senator, I will also 23 repeat my answer. He broke the law. 24 SEN. MICHAEL BENNET: Yes or no? Is 25 Edward Snowden a traitor to the United States of</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 6</p>	<p>1 PRES. DONALD TRUMP: No. 2 [END TAPE] 3 KRISTEN WELKER: Canadian Prime 4 Minister Justin Trudeau firing back. 5 [BEGIN TAPE] 6 PRIME MINISTER JUSTIN TRUDEAU: I want 7 to speak directly to Americans, our closest 8 friends and neighbors. This is a choice that 9 yes, will harm Canadians but beyond that, it will 10 have real consequences for you. It will raise 11 costs for you, including food at the grocery 12 store, gas at the pump. They will impede your 13 access to an affordable supply of vital goods, 14 crucial for U.S. security. 15 [END TAPE] 16 KRISTEN WELKER: All of this comes as 17 the president is ramping up his deportation 18 efforts. And joining me now from the border in 19 Del Rio, Texas is Homeland Security Secretary 20 Kristi Noem. Secretary Noem, welcome back to 21 Meet the Press. 22 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: Thank you. Thank 23 you for inviting me to be with you today, 24 Kristen. 25 KRISTEN WELKER: Thank you so much for</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 8</p>
<p>1 America? 2 TULSI GABBARD: As someone who -- 3 SEN. MICHAEL BENNET: -- I'll go on to 4 my questions -- 5 TULSI GABBARD: -- has worn our uniform 6 in combat, I understand how critical our national 7 security is -- 8 SEN. MICHAEL BENNET: Apparently, you 9 don't. 10 [END TAPE] 11 KRISTEN WELKER: White House officials 12 insist President Trump is standing by Gabbard. 13 Meanwhile, there have been a dizzying number of 14 actions this week, as President Trump halted 15 federal funding and then reversed course amid a 16 legal challenge, fired dozens of career 17 prosecutors inside the Justice Department and 18 forced out FBI senior executives. And officially 19 on Saturday imposed tariffs on America's largest 20 trading partners: Mexico, Canada and China. 21 [BEGIN TAPE] 22 KELLY O'DONNELL: Is there anything 23 China, Canada and Mexico can do tonight to 24 forestall your implementation of tariffs 25 tomorrow?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 7</p>	<p>1 being here, madam secretary. We are going to 2 talk about the border, the deportation plan in 3 just a moment. I do have to start by talking 4 about the breaking news overnight, the president 5 officially announcing the new tariffs against 6 Canada, Mexico, and China, saying he wants those 7 countries to do more to crack down on illegal 8 immigration and drug trafficking. The three 9 countries are all slamming the move. They're 10 vowing retaliatory strikes. Is the United States 11 now in a trade war? 12 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: You know, these 13 countries have an opportunity to get onboard with 14 the president of the United States and to partner 15 with us to deal with illegal immigration, to take 16 back their individuals that have been in our 17 country illegally. We want to repatriate them 18 home. And they can be partners. So 19 economically, yes, they will feel -- they will 20 feel pain. They will feel what this consequences 21 are, and we'll be able to continue to go forward 22 with a president who's strong, who's putting 23 America first. 24 KRISTEN WELKER: You know, let me just 25 stress that point that I made which is the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p>

<p>1 president cites stopping the flow of fentanyl and 2 undocumented migrants for reasons for these 3 tariffs. And yet, madam secretary, Canada is not 4 a major source of fentanyl coming into the United 5 States. It's frankly minuscule compared to what 6 is seized at the southern border. Why is the 7 United States punishing Canada, one of its 8 closest allies, more than China, where fentanyl 9 originates?</p> <p>10 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: Canada has some work 11 to do as far as helping us secure our northern 12 border. So we still know we're extremely 13 vulnerable across that northern border, that we 14 have people coming into our country from China, 15 from foreign countries. We have people on the 16 terrorist watchlist that come in over our 17 northern border. And in fact what we have sent a 18 message this week on is that we're not just going 19 to enforce our southern border. We're going to 20 put extra resources, resources at that northern 21 border as well. So Canada needs to come to the 22 table. They need to work with us to make sure 23 that not only can we be good neighbors but that 24 we can help each other's economies by getting in 25 line and making sure that our immigration</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p>	<p>1 what he is going to do and what the consequences 2 are. I encourage their leadership teams to get 3 onboard and to make sure that they're not pushing 4 up prices. If prices go up, it's because of 5 other people's reactions to America's laws. And 6 that's what President Trump is doing. He is 7 making sure that we're not picking and choosing 8 winners and losers, that the law applies equally 9 to everybody, American citizens. It applies to 10 those who are here illegally. And our world 11 leaders across the country and across the world, 12 they can help us, or they're going to face some 13 consequences.</p> <p>14 KRISTEN WELKER: Okay, so notable, you 15 are acknowledging it is possible that prices 16 could, at least initially, go up. Secretary 17 Noem, let me shift now to the southern border, 18 where you are. Let's talk about the 19 administration's mass deportation plans. There 20 are a lot of questions about the announcement 21 this week that Guantanamo Bay will be used as a 22 detention facility for migrants. Will people 23 held at Guantanamo have the same due process 24 rights and access to attorneys that they have 25 here in the United States?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p>
<p>1 policies are followed, and that those that are 2 dangerous criminals face consequences. The 3 president has been very clear from the beginning 4 that there's a new sheriff in town, that he's 5 going to make sure he's putting Americans first, 6 and that Canada can help us or they can get in 7 the way, and they will face the consequences of 8 it.</p> <p>9 KRISTEN WELKER: As you know, Madam 10 Secretary, economists all across the board are 11 warning that ultimately tariffs lead to higher 12 prices for consumers and that these tariffs in 13 particular could see prices increase on food, 14 electronics, and cars. The president himself 15 acknowledging this morning these tariffs could 16 cause, quote, "some pain." How is this move 17 helping President Trump fulfill his campaign 18 promise to lower prices?</p> <p>19 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: You know, you've 20 seen the president take action already this week 21 with Colombia. And you saw Colombia react in a 22 very positive way that was good for everyone 23 involved. Canada, Mexico, other countries have 24 the opportunity to do exactly the same. So we 25 have a strong leader. He has laid down exactly</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p>	<p>1 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: Yes, due process 2 will be followed and having facilities at 3 Guantanamo Bay will be an asset to us in the fact 4 that we'll have the capacity to continue to do 5 there what we've always done. We've always had a 6 presence of illegal immigrants there that have 7 been detained. We're just building out some 8 capacity. So we appreciate the partnership of 9 the DOD in getting that up to the level that it 10 needs to get to in order to facilitate this 11 repatriation of people back to their countries. 12 So remember that Guantanamo Bay clearly, by this 13 president, has said that it will hold the worst 14 of the worst, that we are going after those bad 15 actors. This last week, I was in New York City. 16 We were going after people that had warrants out 17 for their arrest on murders and rapes, assaults, 18 gun purchases, drug trafficking. In fact we had 19 a member of TDA that was one of the ringleaders 20 that we picked up that that week, had been trying 21 to buy grenades. These are the types of 22 individuals that we are targeting, we're removing 23 from communities, and that could end up having a 24 stay at Guantanamo Bay before they are returned 25 home to their countries to deal with.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p>

<p>1 KRISTEN WELKER: Is it possible, Madam 2 Secretary, that people could be held at 3 Guantanamo Bay indefinitely? 4 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: That is not the 5 plan. The plan is to have a process that we 6 follow that's laid out in law and make sure that 7 we're dealing with these individuals 8 appropriately according to what the state and the 9 national lawsuit -- or law directs. So we will 10 work with Congress to make sure that we're 11 addressing our legal immigration laws and using 12 Guantanamo Bay appropriately. But it is an asset 13 that we have that we fully intend to utilize. 14 KRISTEN WELKER: Could women, children, 15 and families be held there at Guantanamo? 16 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: You know, if you 17 look at what we are doing today of targeting the 18 worst of the worst, we've been very clear on 19 that. The priority of this president is to go 20 after criminal aliens that are making our streets 21 more dangerous. 22 KRISTEN WELKER: But -- 23 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: After that, we have 24 final removal orders on many individuals in this 25 country. They are the next priority, and we'll</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p>	<p>1 KRISTEN WELKER: Yeah. 2 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: -- what happens when 3 they break the law and how they are returned to 4 their countries. I've been extremely grateful 5 for Secretary of State Marco Rubio's work with 6 these countries to negotiate and use diplomacy to 7 ensure that they are going to be taking 8 individuals back not just from their country but 9 surrounding countries so that we can immediately 10 take action to return them far from the United 11 States, which dramatically increases the 12 likelihood that they're not going to come back. 13 KRISTEN WELKER: Let me ask you, I've 14 been talking to people who are here legally and 15 they have expressed concerns. They say they are 16 carrying, in some cases, their documents around 17 with them. Some of them are afraid to go to 18 churches because ICE agents are now going into 19 churches and schools to carry out these 20 deportation operations. Do people who are here 21 legally need to be carrying around paperwork? 22 And can you guarantee that people who are here 23 legally won't be wrongfully detained? 24 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: Kristen, I would say 25 that if I've heard that expressed by people that</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p>
<p>1 continue to work through -- 2 KRISTEN WELKER: But -- 3 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: -- people that are 4 breaking the law, that are in danger to these 5 communities, and use the detention centers that 6 we have set up in order to facilitate this in an 7 orderly way. 8 KRISTEN WELKER: But I guess, Madam 9 Secretary, my question, would you rule out that 10 women, that children, that families could be held 11 at Guantanamo Bay? Do you rule that out? 12 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: You know, Kristen, 13 we're going to use the facilities that we have. 14 I think you're well aware we have other detention 15 facilities other places in the country. So we 16 will utilize what we have according to what's 17 appropriate for the individuals that we have gone 18 out on these targeted operations with local law 19 enforcement and task forces to make sure that 20 they're being brought in, they're not paroled 21 anymore -- 22 KRISTEN WELKER: Yeah. 23 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: -- onto our streets, 24 that we're keeping America safe, and that we're 25 following the process for --</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p>	<p>1 are legal citizens of the United States, it's 2 because the media has perpetuated that fear. The 3 media has said that that's a possibility. 4 There's nothing from this administration, from 5 President Trump or from any of the law 6 enforcement individuals in these communities, 7 that has said that they need to walk around and 8 be concerned about that at all. We -- the 9 citizens of the United States are confident that 10 finally, after four long years of having a 11 president in the White House that ignored federal 12 law and endangered their communities, that 13 there's a different man in charge now. There's a 14 man in charge who loves this country, is going to 15 help make their communities safer. And these 16 citizens that live here are thrilled. In fact, 17 when I was in New York City earlier this week and 18 -- 19 KRISTEN WELKER: Yeah. 20 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: -- in several cities 21 since then, the people walking by us on the 22 streets were thanking our officers. They were 23 thanking these investigators and those that were 24 taking these dangerous criminals out for being 25 there, for making sure that they could walk their</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 17</p>

<p>1 kids to school with a new confidence that they 2 could get there safely and that they could do 3 business and have their community back. 4 KRISTEN WELKER: Secretary Noem, let me 5 ask you about the news that you made overnight, 6 DHS officially making the decision to end 7 Temporary Protected Status. For our audience, 8 that means, applies to about half a million 9 Venezuelans. They no longer have protection from 10 deportation. These are people who were welcomed 11 here. They did everything by the books. Why 12 should they be subject to deportation? Just very 13 quickly. 14 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: Well, the TPP 15 program has been abused, and it doesn't have 16 integrity right now. And folks from Venezuela 17 that have come into this country are members of 18 TDA. And remember, Venezuela purposely emptied 19 out their prisons, emptied out their mental 20 health facilities and sent them to the United 21 States of America. So we are ending that 22 extension of that program, adding some integrity 23 back into it. And this administration's 24 evaluating all of our programs to make sure they 25 truly are something that's to the benefit of the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 18</p>	<p>1 note. I want to start by talking about this 2 horrific plane crash here in the nation's 3 capital. It claimed 67 lives. I know that you 4 have been paying close attention to this 5 investigation. President Trump, for his part 6 came out, he held a news conference, started with 7 a moment of silence, quickly shifted to politics, 8 including blaming diversity programs for the 9 crash. Do you believe that President Trump runs 10 the risk of getting ahead of the facts by drawing 11 conclusions that he himself says he has no 12 evidence that diversity programs played a role? 13 SEN. ERIC SCHMITT: Well, the first 14 thing I want to say is that our thoughts and 15 prayers are with the families. This is going to 16 be a long road for them. As everyone knows, this 17 is a nightmare. You know, you take a loved one 18 to the airport, you never expect this to happen, 19 you know, the last time you ever see that person. 20 And so, I don't want -- we'll talk about all 21 that, but the human tragedy here is something 22 that's gut-wrenching for those families. My 23 prayers, my family's prayers are with them, and I 24 know the country wants to wrap their arms around 25 them too. They deserve a full investigation, and</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 20</p>
<p>1 United States, so that they're not to the benefit 2 of criminals. 3 KRISTEN WELKER: Homeland Security 4 Secretary Kristi Noem, thank you so much. I know 5 it's been a busy week. I know you've also been 6 very engaged in the investigation into -- 7 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: Yeah. 8 KRISTEN WELKER: -- the horrific crash 9 here. We appreciate your joining us. Thank you 10 so much. 11 SEC. KRISTI NOEM: Yeah. Thank you so 12 much. We're praying for their families, 13 absolutely. 14 KRISTEN WELKER: Thank you, Madam 15 Secretary. When we come back, Republican Senator 16 Eric Schmitt of Missouri joins me next. 17 (Break) 18 KRISTEN WELKER: Welcome back. And 19 joining me now is Republican Senator Eric Schmitt 20 of Missouri. Senator Schmitt, welcome back to 21 Meet the Press. 22 SEN. ERIC SCHMITT: It's great to be 23 with you, Kristen. 24 KRISTEN WELKER: Well, it is great to 25 have you back. I do have to start on a somber</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 19</p>	<p>1 I think we've learned a few things already. But 2 as it relates specifically to the president's 3 comments, this is nothing new, Kristen. This 4 idea of emphasizing DEI across the federal 5 government has real ramifications. The president 6 said and as you just mentioned, not related 7 specifically, we don't know, the investigation 8 will find out. But broadly speaking, DEI is 9 poison. It's hurt recruiting, it's hurt hiring, 10 it's hurt retention. The hours spent on these 11 struggle sessions during training is hours you 12 don't spend on safety. And that's just a fact. 13 And it's evidenced by the fact that 1,000 people 14 sued the air traffic control for not being hired 15 because of their race. It's evidenced by the 16 fact that you have also people who were fired 17 from air traffic controls, and pilots for not 18 taking the Covid shot. And then, you know, the 19 government then, of course, makes it a priority 20 to hire 87,000 IRS agents to roam across the 21 country and harass Americans. So this has 22 become, Kristen, an obsession. And in the 23 commerce committee, if you paid any attention — 24 (INAUDIBLE) that I've had, other members have 25 had, to put these policies — (INAUDIBLE) exactly</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p>

<p>1 what they've done. And they try to score 2 political points by doing it, but it has real 3 ramifications on the workforce. 4 KRISTEN WELKER: Just very quickly, I 5 mean, we have to point out that the FAA, aviation 6 groups, say that every pilot, every air traffic 7 controller has to pass the same rigorous test. 8 They have to meet exceedingly high standards. 9 But bottom line, Senator, what I'm asking you, do 10 you have any evidence whatsoever that diversity 11 programs played a role in this crash? Because 12 the President said he doesn't. 13 SEN. ERIC SCHMITT: Well, no one has 14 said that. But I do think if you want to find a 15 solution you have to be honest about the problem. 16 And the truth is, merit has taken a backseat to 17 quotas. That's the truth -- 18 KRISTEN WELKER: But Senator, we don't 19 know that's the problem in this case-- 20 SEN. ERIC SCHMITT: No, no. 21 KRISTEN WELKER: We don't know that 22 that's the problem in this instance-- 23 SEN. ERIC SCHMITT: I know. But 24 Kristen, Kristen we can distinguish the 25 investigation in this case versus writ large.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p>	<p>1 He's now imposing tariffs on the country's three 2 biggest trading partners: Mexico, Canada, and 3 China. Can you guarantee, Senator, that these 4 tariffs won't drive up prices? 5 SEN. ERIC SCHMITT: All we have to do 6 is look at President Trump's first four years 7 where he institutes tariffs. We didn't see 8 inflation. In fact, we saw record wage growth. 9 We saw \$200 billion plus go into the Treasury 10 from those tariffs. Tariffs that help even the 11 playing field with countries who have been 12 ripping us off, quite frankly, for generations. 13 China, specifically. I think the American people 14 are tired of being ripped off. They're tired of 15 seeing their jobs go overseas. But I think these 16 tariffs specifically, Kristen, are meant to bring 17 Canada and Mexico to the table for the fentanyl 18 that is streaming into our communities. It's 19 also worth noting, in the last four years, that 20 the trade imbalance and our trade deficit has 21 gone up 200 percent plus with Canada and up 52 22 percent with Mexico. The fact is these countries 23 are taking advantage of us. All along the while 24 we've got fentanyl streaming into our country. 25 So Mexico has a choice. They can choose to trade</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p>
<p>1 It's also true in our military. Pete Hegseth is 2 going to get rid of DEI in the military. It's 3 divisive, it's hurt recruiting. The same is true 4 across the government. People don't want to sit 5 through these struggle sessions with this race 6 essentialism. And by the way, the federal 7 government is being sued for discriminating 8 against certain employees because of their race. 9 So this is a fact of the matter. It's true. And 10 the one thing people care about is they want to 11 get from here to there safely. I don't care, and 12 Americans don't care the race of the pilot, or 13 somebody in the tower, or their religion, or 14 their gender. They just want the best people, 15 and that is what we have to get back to in the 16 country. 17 KRISTEN WELKER: Alright. Let's, as 18 you say, your thoughts and prayers are with the 19 families right now. I think that certainly is 20 something that everyone can agree with. I do 21 want to move on-- 22 SEN. ERIC SCHMITT: Absolutely-- 23 KRISTEN WELKER: --to tariffs, this 24 breaking news overnight. President Trump, as you 25 know, won in part on a vow to bring down prices.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p>	<p>1 with the United States or continue to cozy up 2 with the cartels. It's pretty simple. 3 KRISTEN WELKER: But you talk about 4 President Trump's first term. It's worth noting 5 that during his first term a number of prices did 6 go up on various goods from washing machines and 7 tires. You mention Canada. Very little fentanyl 8 is coming across the border from Canada. Why is 9 the President punishing Canada more than China, 10 the country's adversary? Do you think that's 11 right? 12 SEN. ERIC SCHMITT: Well, that number 13 is growing, though, Kristen. I think it's 14 important, especially in the last year-- 15 KRISTEN WELKER: --But it's minuscule 16 right now. It's miniscule right now. 17 SEN. ERIC SCHMITT: But it's growing. 18 It's growing. And when they have a porous 19 border, and they don't seem very concerned at 20 all-- and by the way, I heard the clip earlier, 21 Justin Trudeau sort of lecturing Americans. My 22 advice to him is, he probably ought to talk to 23 the Canadian people who are about ready to throw 24 him out of office because he's been a total 25 disaster. So, I think we've got a president that</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 25</p>

<p>1 wants to put America first and protect people. 2 We have 100,000 people a year, Kristen, dying 3 from fentanyl. He ran about this -- on this. 4 This is not a surprise. He talked about getting 5 operational control of our border, he talked 6 about tariffs and improving our standing in the 7 world. He's doing all those things. And look no 8 further, the best evidence of this last week. 9 Colombia came to the table after that threat and 10 agreed to take criminals back into their country, 11 and illegal immigrants. So, the fact of the 12 matter is it works. It worked the first time 13 when he was in office. We didn't see inflation, 14 we saw wage growth, and we saw more on-shoring of 15 jobs back here to the United States. 16 KRISTEN WELKER: I have to ask you 17 about the confirmation hearings, of course. Last 18 time you were here in November you told me you 19 were a "yes" on President Trump's Cabinet 20 nominations. Some of your Republican colleagues, 21 this week expressing concern in the wake of Tulsi 22 Gabbard's confirmation hearing. She's been 23 tapped to be the Director of National 24 Intelligence. Of course she was pressed on 25 whether Edward Snowden is a traitor--would not</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 26</p>	<p>1 the intelligence community spying on a 2 presidential candidate that happened to be 3 President Trump, suppressing the Hunter Biden 4 laptop story when he was running again, and then, 5 of course, the lawfare that included. So, I 6 think people are tired of these games, of this 7 sort of, "gotcha" stuff. Look, if he's, if he's 8 been indicted, he comes back to the States, he's 9 going to have a trial. But this idea we tried to 10 disqualify using these terms is ridiculous. 11 KRISTEN WELKER: Well, and what I'm 12 doing really, I mean, these are questions that 13 were asked by your Republican colleagues, 14 including Senator Langford, who asked very 15 simply, is he a traitor? A government contractor 16 who leaked government secrets? It's a very 17 simple question, yes or no? We're almost out of 18 time, though. 19 ERIC SCHMITT: Sure. 20 KRISTEN WELKER: Is he a traitor? 21 ERIC SCHMITT: I think she was pretty 22 clear. I think she's pretty clear. 23 KRISTEN WELKER: But what do you think? 24 ERIC SCHMITT: That she served this 25 country honorably, and I think it's totally</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 28</p>
<p>1 answer that directly. Senator, are you still a 2 "yes" on Tulsi Gabbard's confirmation? 3 SEN. ERIC SCHMITT: I am, 100 percent. 4 I think she's very well-qualified. No one's 5 disputing that. She served our country honorably 6 in the military. She's been a member of 7 Congress. And I think she strikes a really 8 important balance for a key position of civil 9 liberties, protecting civil liberties of United 10 States citizens, and also our national security. 11 So, I still think she's going to get confirmed. 12 That's what this confirmation process is all 13 about, for people to ask tough questions. And I 14 think she's going to do just fine next week. 15 KRISTEN WELKER: Senator, very quickly 16 to you, how would you answer that same question? 17 Is Edward Snowden a traitor? 18 ERIC SCHMITT: Look, I think it's, it's 19 so interesting that this lexicon that gets 20 manipulated now. There were certain words that 21 you needed to say during COVID. There are 22 certain words that you need to say now. The fact 23 of the matter is, the people who are most 24 concerned, the most pushing this narrative are 25 the same ones who had no issues whatsoever with</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 27</p>	<p>1 ridiculous to try to smear people who are trying 2 to serve this country, because again, it's sort 3 of "gotcha." And I will also point out a lot of 4 people that are asking this don't like her 5 because she's going to bring reform and she's 6 going to curb the excesses in the worst instincts 7 of the intelligence community at times that has 8 gone after presidential candidates. 9 KRISTEN WELKER: Alright. Senator Eric 10 Schmitt, thank you so much for being here. 11 Really appreciate it. 12 SEN. ERIC SCHMITT: Great to be with 13 you. 14 KRISTEN WELKER: When we come back, 15 Democratic Senator Mark Kelly of Arizona joins me 16 next. 17 (Break) 18 KRISTEN WELKER: Welcome back, and 19 joining me now is Democratic Senator Mark Kelly 20 of Arizona. Senator Kelly, welcome back to Meet 21 the Press. 22 SEN. MARK KELLY: Good morning, 23 Kristen. 24 KRISTEN WELKER: It's great to have you 25 back. I do have to start again on this tragic</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p>

<p>1 news about this plane crash here in the nation's 2 capital. You, of course, have flown combat 3 missions as a Navy pilot. You just heard my 4 conversation with Senator Schmitt responding to 5 what we heard from President Trump this week, 6 that diversity programs, according to the 7 president, may have played a role. The president 8 acknowledging he does not have proof of that. 9 What is your take on what we know and what you've 10 heard?</p> <p>11 SEN. MARK KELLY: Well, Kristen, first, 12 it's a tragic and sad accident. I really feel 13 for the families on the plane, on the helicopter. 14 It's -- you know, you know, these accidents are 15 all often a very complicated set of things that 16 happen sequentially. It's often not one thing 17 that causes a major aviation accident like this. 18 I've been involved in accident investigations, 19 particularly, like with the -- with Space Shuttle 20 Columbia, you know, as an example, that we lost 21 in 2003. And to say that it has to do with the 22 person's color of their skin or their gender, I 23 think that's just poor leadership. And 24 especially at a time where any president is 25 supposed to be the consoler-in-chief, and not the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p>	<p>1 that we could do to strengthen the border. You 2 know, we've demonstrated that Democrats and 3 Republicans can work together to come up with 4 real policy solutions. What the president has 5 proposed here, raising tariffs on Canada and 6 Mexico, it's going to just do one thing. You say 7 it may raise prices. It will raise prices for 8 American consumers. We saw this in his first 9 administration here in Arizona. We wound up in a 10 trade war over certain things with China. For 11 cotton producers and pecan farmers, they wound up 12 -- it really, really hurt their businesses. But, 13 you know, beyond this it's going to hurt American 14 families. They're going to see prices go up for 15 food, for energy, for electronics, I think you 16 mentioned that, for autos. This is not the way 17 to handle this.</p> <p>18 KRISTEN WELKER: I do want to turn to 19 the nomination process. Tulsi Gabbard in the 20 spotlight this week. You were among those asking 21 her a range of different questions during her 22 confirmation hearing. She is a former Democratic 23 lawmaker. We should let -- remind folks of that. 24 She ran for president in the Democratic Party. 25 Notably, you have supported all but two of Mr.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p>
<p>1 person that's going to try to divide us as a 2 country, especially when you don't have the 3 appropriate information. And he clearly does not 4 have the information in this case. This is too 5 early in the investigation. The NTSB is really 6 good at this. They'll do a thorough 7 investigation and we'll eventually see what the 8 cause of this accident was.</p> <p>9 KRISTEN WELKER: Yeah, and they are 10 still investigating, that is for sure. Let's 11 shift to the other big news of this morning, the 12 president's announcement on tariffs on the 13 country's three biggest trading partners. You 14 heard Senator Schmitt defending the plan, you 15 heard Secretary Noem defending the plan as well, 16 saying ultimately this will be good for the 17 economy, rejecting the idea that it could drive 18 up prices. Do you think, as President Trump has 19 argued, that tariffs ultimately will be good at 20 stemming the flow of illegal immigration and 21 fentanyl?</p> <p>22 SEN. MARK KELLY: Kristen, you're -- 23 we're talking about two different things here. 24 Border security is important. I represent 25 Arizona. We're a border state. There are things</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p>	<p>1 Trump's nominees so far, but you've expressed 2 some real concerns about Tulsi Gabbard. Based on 3 your conversations, do you think Tulsi Gabbard 4 has the votes to get confirmed?</p> <p>5 SEN. MARK KELLY: Well, I think anybody 6 who went into that confirmation hearing this week 7 with questions about, you know, her background, 8 her ability to manage 18 intelligence agencies, 9 and also her commitment to guard our secrets -- 10 as the director of national intelligence, she is 11 responsible for a lot. She's got to sort through 12 a massive amount of information every single day, 13 decide what to present to the president. I think 14 if you had questions about her decision making 15 and her judgment when you went into that hearing, 16 I think anybody that sat there, like I did, or my 17 colleagues on both sides of the aisle, probably 18 left with more questions. I know I did. You 19 played Senator Lankford's exchange with her over 20 whether or not Edward Snowden was a traitor. 21 It's a pretty simple question to ask. He 22 actually thought he was throwing her a softball, 23 something she could easily, you know, admit to. 24 I mean, the definition of a traitor's pretty 25 simple. I mean, whether or not somebody betrayed</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 33</p>

<p>1 our country, and in the case of Edward Snowden, 2 we know he did. He gave -- he released a lot of 3 classified information, top secret information, 4 over a million documents, and he gave a lot of 5 those to Russia, he may have given some to China. 6 He meets the definition. I don't see why she 7 couldn't, you know, say that. I'm kind of 8 puzzled by it and, you know, I don't know why she 9 wouldn't admit that. It's interesting, my friend 10 and colleague, Eric Schmitt, wouldn't either. I 11 don't, you know, I don't question, you know, his 12 judgment on this. I think this is a very 13 political situation. But I think my Republican 14 colleagues, many of them will still have 15 questions about her nomination. 16 KRISTEN WELKER: All right, well, we'll 17 have to see how it all plays out. It will be 18 obviously a dynamic several days as we wait to 19 see what happens with her vote, whether she gets 20 out of committee. Sources who are close to her 21 say they do feel confident she will. I do want 22 to talk about the president's mass deportation 23 plans. You heard from Homeland Security 24 Secretary Kristi Noem earlier in the broadcast. 25 ICE operations are already being carried out</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 34</p>	<p>1 accordance with our values. 2 KRISTEN WELKER: One more question to 3 you, Senator. President Trump obviously signed 4 the Laken Riley Act into law this week. Just so 5 folks understand, that will allow law enforcement 6 to detain and to deport undocumented immigrants 7 who've been charged with theft-related crimes. 8 You voted in support of this bill. I had an 9 opportunity to interview your colleague, Senator 10 Adam Schiff, who opposed it. He told me last 11 week this bill is so broad the U.S., quote, 12 "would be able to deport Dreamers for taking a 13 tube of toothpaste." Can you guarantee this law 14 won't be applied in a way that's overly broad? 15 SEN. MARK KELLY: Well, this law is 16 about public safety. Representing a border 17 state, this affects Arizona I think more than 18 other states just because of, you know, numbers, 19 and it's where, you know, folks cross. Kristen, 20 if you come across the border and you don't have 21 documentation, you've already committed a crime. 22 This is for somebody who then decides to commit a 23 second crime. And they're taken into custody, 24 there'll be due process involved so they could 25 eventually -- if they can prove that these are</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 36</p>
<p>1 across the country. You have pushed for tougher 2 standards, tougher border policies. Do you 3 support what you are seeing so far, the 4 deportation plan, as it's been carried out by the 5 president? 6 SEN. MARK KELLY: Yeah, I don't. For a 7 number of reasons. It seems to be more about 8 intimidation of a big population of people. It's 9 going down the road of mass deportation, which he 10 said he would do, which would rip communities 11 apart. These are really bad ideas. Sending -- 12 Trying to send folks back to Colombia, which we 13 do routinely, but sending them on military 14 airplanes, which, by the way, costs a lot more 15 money than putting them on a chartered airline 16 flight which we've, you know, done for decades. 17 It's all about scaring and intimidating people. 18 It's the same thing for Guantanamo Bay. Building 19 a facility there is because it just sounds very 20 frightening to a lot of folks. When you're a 21 criminal, we need to find where you are and we 22 need to take you into custody, and if you're not 23 documented, you should be returned. That makes 24 sense. I'm all about public safety and border 25 security. But we've got to do it in a way in</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 35</p>	<p>1 not valid charges, or they go through the court 2 system -- they could then be released. I'm not 3 concerned about, you know, what Adam is talking 4 about. I think, you know, very highly of 5 Dreamers. You know, Dreamers are as American as 6 my own two kids. I think we should be working 7 towards a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers. I 8 know some of my Republican colleagues feel the 9 same way. And we're going to solve these border 10 issues by working together, Democrats and 11 Republicans, to come up with policy changes on 12 border security and immigration reform. 13 KRISTEN WELKER: All right, Senator 14 Kelly, thank you so much for joining us. We 15 really appreciate it. 16 SEN. MARK KELLY: Thank you, Kristen. 17 KRISTEN WELKER: And when we come back, 18 a warning about the need for checks and balances 19 in the federal government from a former attorney 20 general. Our Meet the Press Minute is next. 21 KRISTEN WELKER: Welcome back. One of 22 the Senate's key checks on the executive branch 23 was back on display this week as senators grilled 24 some of President Trump's more vulnerable Cabinet 25 nominees like Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. Back in</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p>

<p>1 1961, Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, Sr. 2 joined Meet the Press with this defense of 3 Congress's role in reining in the administration. 4 [BEGIN TAPE] 5 ROBERT F. KENNEDY, SR.: I think it's 6 terribly important to ensure that the executive 7 branch of the government is not corrupt, and that 8 they are efficient, that the legislative branch 9 of the government has this ability to check on 10 what we're doing in the executive branch of the 11 government. So, in every instance that has been 12 brought to our attention at the Department of 13 Justice so far by various departments of the 14 executive branch where this question has been 15 raised, we have suggested and recommended that 16 they make the information available to Congress. 17 We will continue to do that. I don't say that 18 there might not be an instance where executive 19 privilege might have to be used, but I think that 20 it's terribly important, with the executive 21 branch of the government as powerful and strong 22 as it is, that there be some check and balance on 23 it. 24 [END TAPE] 25 KRISTEN WELKER: And when we come back,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 38</p>	<p>1 after our nearest neighbors and one of our 2 biggest global adversaries and competitors in 3 China. And I pressed him looking for, "What does 4 he want back? Is it a negotiating ploy? Is 5 there a concession you're looking for?" And he 6 kept saying no. And if you read the text of it, 7 he talks about the national emergency we have 8 with Canada, using that power, that authority he 9 has to declare something that many Americans may 10 not see. I then asked him about, "You ran 11 wanting to reduce prices, and we know that prices 12 are paid -- the -- the importers pay the tariff 13 and then it's passed on." And he said, "There 14 could be disruption. But people will 15 understand." I said, "Mr. President, you said 16 you would reduce everyday costs." So, I think 17 there is a lot more to be understood about the 18 real world impact. It's coming on the fly. It 19 appeared on the fly. He sort of negotiated down 20 from 25 percent to 10 percent on energy because 21 we know energy matters to his overall policy, and 22 it matters to Americans who have to fill their 23 gas tanks. 24 KRISTEN WELKER: Well, Ryan, pick up 25 there. Because for so many constituents of</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 40</p>
<p>1 will President Trump's controversial Cabinet 2 nominees make it through the confirmation 3 process? The panel is next. 4 (Break) 5 KRISTEN WELKER: Welcome back. The 6 panel is here: NBC News Senior White House 7 Correspondent Kelly O'Donnell, NBC News Chief 8 Capitol Hill Correspondent Ryan Nobles, former 9 Democratic Congresswoman Stephanie Murphy of 10 Florida, and Marc Short, former Trump Director of 11 Legislative Affairs. Thanks to all of you for 12 being here. Boy, there are a lot of headlines to 13 get to. Kelly, let's start with the one that 14 broke overnight: tariffs. The president 15 officially moving to impose tariffs against 16 America's three biggest trading partners. You 17 had a very robust exchange with him on Friday in 18 the Oval Office about a range of issues, 19 including this one. You pressed him repeatedly: 20 will prices go up? 21 KELLY O'DONNELL: We had a lot of back 22 and forth on this. In part, I was acting as a 23 pool reporter, so I was in the Oval. And what 24 was striking is this is the president's first 25 foreign policy move, and it is one that goes</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 39</p>	<p>1 lawmakers on Capitol Hill, this is a, you know, 2 issue that impacts them on a day-to-day basis. 3 What is the reaction that you're starting to see 4 trickle into this news that the president is 5 imposing tariffs? And, by the way, potentially 6 vowing to escalate them if these other countries 7 retaliate, which they say they're going to do. 8 RYAN NOBLES: Well, this is going to be 9 a real test to see if Republicans in Congress are 10 willing to stand up to the president, because 11 they're going to be the first ones to hear 12 directly from their constituents when their 13 constituents' prices start to rise. And what 14 we've seen, at least in the first two weeks of 15 this administration, is that Congressional 16 Republicans are largely out of the loop. They're 17 finding out about these major policy proposals 18 oftentimes when we tell them in the hallways of 19 Congress. And so, there's little opportunity for 20 them to react, to respond, and to encourage the 21 president to go into a different direction 22 because he's not consulting them on some of these 23 big decisions. There's a long laundry list of 24 things that I know you want to talk about, 25 Kristen. So, we'll have to see if they're</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 41</p>

<p>1 reactionary here. Do they plead with the White 2 House to try and rein this in or refine the 3 policy proposal a little bit? Because there's no 4 doubt they're going to hear from their 5 constituents first. And we're only a year and 6 change away from the next election, and they're 7 the ones that are going to feel the brunt of 8 these decisions first.</p> <p>9 KRISTEN WELKER: Marc, as someone who 10 was in the first Trump administration when 11 tariffs were imposed against China, there's a 12 difference between these round of tariffs and 13 what we saw during the first Trump 14 administration.</p> <p>15 MARC SHORT: I think this is one of the 16 greatest differences between Trump 1.0 and Trump 17 2.0. In the first administration, the tariffs 18 were largely targeted, largely toward China for 19 national security purposes to get concessions. 20 The first administration had economic advisors 21 and national security advisors who believed in 22 trade for both economic benefit and national 23 security benefit. The team he has around him 24 today has a very different viewpoint. It's a 25 very mercantilist viewpoint that says, "You</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p>	<p>1 broad set of events that we have witnessed? 2 STEPHANIE MURPHY: Well, I think that 3 the Democrats have a real opportunity here if 4 they focus on standing up for the people. And 5 while some of the things that you mentioned are 6 really outrageous -- firing people at the 7 Department of Justice and at the FBI -- Democrats 8 can't be seen as fighting for power within 9 Washington. They have to be seen fighting for 10 the people. And so highlighting the federal 11 funding freeze, talking about the impact of 12 tariffs on everyday Americans, and the cost of 13 their groceries, and all of their prices, that's 14 going to be a winning message for Democrats. 15 It's unfortunate, though, because this president 16 ran and won on lowering costs for Americans, and 17 his first sets of policies are going to actually 18 raise costs for Americans. And Democrats are 19 going to hang that around not just Donald Trump 20 but also Republicans in Congress.</p> <p>21 KRISTEN WELKER: Yeah, we are starting 22 to see them galvanize around this message that 23 you talk about, Stephanie. And what's so notable 24 about the FBI firings, Kash Patel said in his 25 hearing there will not be retribution against</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p>
<p>1 should be paying for access to American markets." 2 Regardless of the reality that Americans or the 3 importers paying that tariff or that tax, the 4 belief is that this is a tax that should be -- 5 should be assessed to other people. I think the 6 bigger question is going to be if there's this 7 huge market reaction this week, if it begins to 8 impact the economy, then I think could undermine 9 a lot of his other parts of his agenda. And I'll 10 say this is just the beginning. The president 11 and his current team really believe this is the 12 right economic policy across the board and there 13 will be a lot more tariffs coming.</p> <p>14 KRISTEN WELKER: Yeah. Stephanie, 15 let's zoom out a little bit. This week really 16 has brought a dizzying number of headlines. It 17 started with the administration basically 18 announcing cuts to all federal aid. They pulled 19 that back, so big reversal. We're kind of 20 waiting to see how that plays out. The 21 president, as we talked about on the program, 22 blaming diversity programs for the crash. And 23 then on Friday, the announcement that a number of 24 prosecutors -- career prosecutors within the FBI 25 and DOJ being fired. What do you make of this</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p>	<p>1 anyone at the FBI. And Ryan, it comes as we have 2 this new reporting that of all the president's 3 nominees, it's Tulsi Gabbard who may be in real 4 trouble. That White House officials were rattled 5 by her inability to say that "Yes, Edward Snowden 6 is a traitor." Notably, today Senator Schmitt 7 didn't want to go there, didn't want to touch it. 8 What are you hearing about her chances of getting 9 confirmed?</p> <p>10 RYAN NOBLES: So, I think of the three 11 most controversial picks -- Patel, RFK Jr., and 12 Tulsi Gabbard -- Gabbard is the one that is in 13 the most danger. But I do think that you have to 14 start from a place of them getting confirmed and 15 work your way back. Because what this 16 administration is not going to do is what they 17 did with Matt Gaetz and pull the nominee back 18 before they get a vote. They're going to force 19 every single Republican senator to be accountable 20 for this vote, and vote yes or no. And that 21 includes Tulsi Gabbard. Now, there is a 22 difference, though, in their approach in terms of 23 how they're encouraging or putting pressure on 24 these senators to vote yes or no, which a part of 25 your reporting says, Kristen. And you know, with</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p>

<p>1 Pete Hegseth, it was a very clear message to 2 Republican senators, a message sometimes sent by 3 the president himself. At this point, we're not 4 seeing that same level of pressure with Tulsi 5 Gabbard. Whether or not that leads to enough 6 senators, you know, it would require four to step 7 out and vote no, that's something we'll probably 8 find out this week.</p> <p>9 KRISTEN WELKER: Yeah. Kelly, you know 10 how this plays out, having covered the Hill.</p> <p>11 KELLY O'DONNELL: It is also a test of 12 how the president judges those on camera 13 performances. And for Robert Kennedy Jr. and 14 Tulsi Gabbard, the performances during the 15 hearings did not meet the same bar that Pete 16 Hegseth did.</p> <p>17 KRISTEN WELKER: And Marc, what do you 18 make of Tulsi Gabbard, but then this morning 19 Senator Schmitt saying, "I'm not going to touch 20 that. That's -- that's not a real question." And 21 yet it was a question that Republicans were 22 asking her.</p> <p>23 MARC SHORT: I think a lot of Americans 24 don't remember who Edward Snowden is or Julian 25 Assange. But I think that -- a lot of Trump</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p>	<p>1 CERTIFICATION</p> <p>2</p> <p>3 I, Sonya Ledanski Hyde, certify that the 4 foregoing transcript is a true and accurate 5 record of the proceedings.</p> <p>6</p> <p>7</p> <p>8 <i>Sonya M. Ledanski Hyde</i></p> <p>9</p> <p>10</p> <p>11 Veritext Legal Solutions 12 330 Old Country Road 13 Suite 300 14 Mineola, NY 11501</p> <p>15</p> <p>16 Date: February 18, 2025</p> <p>17</p> <p>18</p> <p>19</p> <p>20</p> <p>21</p> <p>22</p> <p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>25</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p>
<p>1 supporters believe the Intelligence Committee 2 hurt him greatly with the fake Russia 3 investigation. But the speed of position where 4 you can say that somebody who sold American 5 secrets, that put Americans in uniforms lives in 6 danger is somehow not a traitor, is an extension 7 that goes far beyond the pale of where I think 8 our party is today when you can't say that Julian 9 Assange and Edward Snowden were actually 10 traitors.</p> <p>11 STEPHANIE MURPHY: National security is 12 dependent on the ability to collect intelligence 13 and safeguard intelligence. And on both of those 14 counts, Tulsi's hearing showed that she didn't 15 full-throatedly believe in either the key ability 16 to collect the intelligence or the need to 17 safeguard it. And I think that should put some 18 real questions in the senators' minds.</p> <p>19 KRISTEN WELKER: All right. Well, 20 we'll have to see how it all plays out. Great 21 conversation, guys. Thanks so much for being 22 here. That is all for today. Thank you so much 23 for watching. We'll be back next week, because 24 if it's Sunday, it's Meet the Press.</p> <p>25</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p>	

Exhibit 22



How the False Story of a Gang 'Takeover' in Colorado Reached Trump

The claim that Aurora, Colo., has been overrun by gun-toting migrants stemmed from the city's fight with a landlord. Now it is central to one of former President Donald J. Trump's anti-immigrant campaign promises.

The claim that Aurora, Colo., has been overrun by gun-toting migrants stemmed from the city's fight with a landlord. Now it is central to one of former President Donald J. Trump's anti-immigrant campaign promises.

Dilapidated apartment complexes in Aurora, Colo., have become a cause célèbre for right-wing media and former President Donald J. Trump, after the landlord claimed a Venezuelan street gang had taken over.

▶ Listen to this article · 11:14 min [Learn more](#)

 Share full article  

By [Jonathan Weisman](#) Photographs by Michael Ciaglo

Reporting from Aurora and Denver, Colo.

Sept. 15, 2024

Mike Coffman, the conservative Republican mayor of Aurora, Colo., said he was at home on Tuesday night watching the presidential debate and bracing for the worst.

And then there it was again, before tens of millions of viewers: former President Donald J. Trump, describing Mr. Coffman's Aurora, a sprawling suburb just east of Denver, as a city under siege, terrorized by migrants.

"They're taking over buildings," Mr. Trump said. "They're going in violently."

Mr. Coffman was contrite on Thursday as he told that story. After all, he had helped create the tall tale now sully his city's reputation.

Before Springfield, Ohio, before the misinformation about devoured pets and the memes of Mr. Trump rescuing ducks and kittens, there was Aurora, pop. 404,219, supposedly overrun by the violent Venezuelan street gang, Tren de Aragua. Those claims became a cause célèbre for the right-wing media, and ultimately a key focus of Mr. Trump's anti-immigration repertoire as he [escalated his attacks on immigrants](#) as part of his campaign's effort to capitalize on voter concerns about the [southern border crisis](#).

Caught in the middle are a number of migrants, living in dilapidated apartments that Aurora officials now call squalor, amid “criminal elements,” not widespread gang activity, and unable to find or afford better. The buildings are nonetheless at the center of a national firestorm.



“Because of one or two Venezuelans who wanted to do something wrong, we are now all accused of something,” said Yorman Fernandez on Friday. Mr. Fernandez, 29, lives in one of the troubled complexes.

“Because of one or two Venezuelans who wanted to do something wrong, we are now all accused of something,” Yorman Fernandez, a 29-year-old Venezuelan who lives at one of the properties, said on Friday, between jobs painting and roofing. “We are not all the same.”

And Mr. Coffman has had to reverse his own rhetoric as he watches Mr. Trump, the presidential candidate he still said he would reluctantly vote for in November, continue to stoke fear in his community. Meantime, the mayor has started a crusade to try to undo the damage Mr. Trump is inflicting.

“I mean, I agree with him on a lot of policies as it pertains to immigration,” Mr. Coffman said in City Hall on Thursday. “But I’m also the mayor of the City of Aurora, and my job is not only to make sure that the city is safe, but also to protect the image of the city.

also the mayor of the City of Aurora, and my job is not only to make sure that the city is safe, but also to protect the image of the city. This narrative out there is exaggerated, and it's our responsibility to correct it."

How the claims about Aurora began



Mike Coffman, the mayor of Aurora, initially helped spread the misleading claims that Venezuelan gangs had taken over parts of the city. He has since backtracked, trying to rehabilitate Aurora's image.

As far back as May 2023, Aurora officials had been trying to force an out-of-state landlord to fix up three blighted apartment complexes in the downtrodden East Colfax Corridor, which connects the cities of Denver and Aurora.

In July 2024, the landlord, CBZ Management, which says it is based



complexes in the downtrodden East Colfax Corridor, which connects the cities of Denver and Aurora.

In July 2024, the landlord, CBZ Management, which says it is based in Colorado and Brooklyn, offered a new argument for why it couldn't repair the buildings: Venezuelan gangs had taken over, and the property managers had been forced to flee.

Mr. Coffman and a Republican City Council member, Danielle Jurinsky, quickly repeated CBZ's unverified claim in interviews.

"We have areas in our city, unfortunately, that have been taken, and we have to take back," Mr. Coffman told a local talk radio host on July 31.

On Aug. 5, a public relations agent, Sara Lattman, hired by CBZ, pitched a "tip" to the local Fox television network affiliate in Denver.

"An apartment building and its owners in Aurora, Colorado have become the most recent victims of the Venezuelan Gang Tren de Aragua's violence, which has taken over several communities in the Denver area," she wrote on Fox 31's tip line, according to an email obtained by The Times. "The residents and building owners of these properties have been left in a state of fear and chaos."

But it was a viral video that [began circulating in late August](#) that shows armed men in the hallway of one of the complexes that ultimately caught Mr. Trump's attention. The incident was reported as a connection to gang violence, particularly the Venezuelan gang Tren de Aragua, though documentation was scarce.

On Tuesday, the Aurora Police Department announced it had arrested 10 members of Tren de Aragua on charges of "felony menacing," attempted first-degree murder, assault, child abuse, domestic abuse and others. But Todd Chamberlain, Aurora's new police chief, could not say whether any of those men were among those seen in the video, or whether any in the video had actually done anything criminal.

Still, the clip, taken by a resident and played on endless loops on



those seen in the video, or whether any in the video had actually done anything criminal.

Still, the clip, taken by a resident and played on endless loops on [Fox News Channel](#) and the [website of The New York Post](#), metastasized into grandiose stories of whole buildings, whole sections of town and, in Mr. Trump’s telling, the whole city of Aurora being taken over by migrants carrying weapons of war.

“And getting them out will be a bloody story,” Mr. Trump said of Aurora [at a rally in Mosinee, Wis., last Saturday](#), adding that it was “not going to be easy, but we’ll do it.”

Mr. Coffman and Ms. Jurinsky have both since backtracked.

“The overstated claims fueled by social media and through select news organizations are simply not true,” they [wrote in a joint statement released Wednesday that appeared aimed at pushing back on Mr. Trump’s debate comments](#).

A false story, fueled by real problems





Star Lopez, left, and her husband Luis, who live in the complex where the viral video was filmed, spoke of roach infestations, long stretches without electricity or running water, a refrigerator that barely works and no landlord to communicate with or even pay rent to.

The claims about Aurora were spun out of real issues.

The Denver area has struggled to deal with an influx of about 40,000 migrants, many of whom had been sent inland by Gov. Greg Abbott of Texas. The soaring cost of housing, acute in Denver, had brought many of those new arrivals to Aurora looking for somewhere cheaper to live — right to those same ramshackle apartments the city was already fighting to get cleaned up.

On Thursday, one resident of the complex, Star Lopez, 29, was gingerly walking her three dogs through a tiny stretch of dirt and weeds — and piles of dog feces — between two of the buildings where the video was captured. Inside the nondescript three-story brick structures, flies swarmed. Most apartments had broken windows, no screens, and doors ajar with no functioning locks or even doorknobs.

Nadeen Ibrahim, organizing director for the nonprofit East Colfax Community Collective, a social service organization in the area, warned of bedbug infestations and rats.

But there were no armed men blocking passage or extorting rent or protection money, Ms. Lopez said, despite what conservative



warned of bedbug infestations and rats.

But there were no armed men blocking passage or extorting rent or protection money, Ms. Lopez said, despite what conservative media has said. Most of the residents at this point are squatters.

“Oh, it’s taken over, but it’s taken over by everybody,” Ms. Lopez said, freely admitting she hadn’t paid rent since November, and adding that most of the neighbors hadn’t either. “It’s survival of the fittest.”

Ms. Lopez is pregnant, hoping for a Christmas baby, she said. Her husband, Luis Lopez, 22, said he works in a warehouse and won’t let his wife walk the dogs at night until he comes home from the late shift. It’s too dangerous. They spoke of roach infestations, long stretches without electricity or running water, a refrigerator that barely works and no landlord to communicate with or even pay.

Nearby, an onlooker from Colorado Springs who declined to give his name gawked and took pictures. He was at the Department of Veterans Affairs hospital nearby and “thought I’d stop by,” he said. “I was expecting to see vigilantes all over the place, people on the rooftops with machine guns.”

The effects





The Fitzsimons Place apartment complex, run by CBZ Management, is one of three that Aurora officials had tried to force the company to fix up as far back as May 2023. The complex, which sits on 1568 Nome Street, is now closed, its windows and doors boarded up.

After the video of armed men went viral in August, Mr. Coffman recalled strapping on a bulletproof vest — “I looked like the Michelin Man” — to pay his first visit to the building where it was filmed. He saw nothing but frustrated renters pleading with him to intervene. When he next held a town-hall meeting with renters from the apartment complexes, he didn’t bother with security.

But the story has taken on a life of its own. Mr. Trump placed Aurora front and center on Friday in his plans for mass deportations if elected.

“We’re going to have the largest deportation in the history of our country,” Mr. Trump said at a news conference at Trump National Golf Club in Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif. “And we’re going to start with Springfield and Aurora.”

There have already been real-world consequences to the fear-mongering, exaggerations and outright lies spreading on the internet and the campaign trail about the situation. Last month, [the city shut down one of the buildings](#), Fitzsimons Place apartments, at the center of the controversy, emptying it of nearly 200 inhabitants — many, but not all, of them migrants and recent arrivals. City officials and police officers arrived at 7 a.m. Aug. 7, the first day of school, to announce that the residents of 1568 Nome Street had six days to clear out.

Rehousing people has been a struggle.

Fear and negative publicity have pushed landlords to stop renting to Venezuelan migrants, said Crystal Murillo, a city councilwoman. Legal aid groups representing tenants and social service nonprofits struggling to house whole families say they are overwhelmed. YouTube personalities and TikTok stars prowl city slums. A white supremacist called into the City Council's public comment period on Monday evening, spewing hate against Venezuelans and Jews.



Legal aid groups representing tenants and social service nonprofits struggling to house whole families say they are overwhelmed.

“This doesn’t compare to any crisis that we’ve ever experienced,” said Emily Goodman, senior manager for housing assistance at the nonprofit East Colfax Community Collective, a social service organization in the area.

The mayor blames his initial statements on information from the Aurora police that was too credulous in repeating the property owner’s excuses.

“The pattern of problems are with one — really, I’m going to be real blunt, I guess — out-of-state slumlord,” he said.

The city has now filed several civil and criminal actions against CBZ and the man officials identified as the landlord of the apartments, Zev Baumgarten.

Stan Garnett, Mr. Baumgarten’s lawyer, insisted that Mr. Baumgarten had no ownership of the property and no management role and was merely a consultant for CBZ.

A lawyer for CBZ, Matthew C. Arentsen, said that his “clients believe that, at its core, this case is not about property mismanagement but about government failures.”

Mr. Chamberlain, the police chief, said he believed that the situation at the properties was now under control. The department is shifting to supporting the Venezuelan community with youth programs and safety outreach — and trying to ensure that its law enforcement efforts do not target the entire migrant community.

“We cannot get myopic or get focused based upon a knee-jerk reaction to something that is very titillating or very out there in the public right now,” he said.

ADVERTISEMENT

Across the street from one of the properties, Whispering Pines, three men sat on their front porch Thursday afternoon shouting at a reporter and a photographer not to believe the “fake news” about the place. Sure, there is crime and probably some gangs, they said, but in this neighborhood those had been there well before the Venezuelans arrived and will be there long after they depart. What they wouldn’t do is give their names.

“I’m not messing with Donald Trump,” one man said, shooing the reporter off the property.



reporter off the property.




City of Aurora code enforcement officers walking through an unlit hallway in one of the apartment buildings at the center of the national firestorm.

Jonathan Weisman is a politics writer, covering campaigns with an emphasis on economic and labor policy. He is based in Chicago. [More about Jonathan Weisman](#)

A version of this article appears in print on Sept. 16, 2024, Section A, Page 12 of the New York edition with the headline: The Real Consequences Of Trump's False Claims About Colorado's Gangs. [Order Reprints](#) | [Today's Paper](#) | [Subscribe](#)

See more on: [Donald Trump](#), [2024 Elections: News, Polls and Analysis](#), [Republican Party](#), [U.S. Politics](#)

 Share full article





Trump's Latest Target: A Nancy Pelosi Achievement in San Francisco

Trump Targets a Growing List of Those He Sees as Disloyal

'The Eastern Gate' Is a Lean and Mean Spy Drama

Traveling Abroad? If You're Paying With Dollars, Your Trip Is on Sale.

Alexander Brothers Face More Lawsuits Accusing Them of Sexual Assault

Former N.F.L. Player Arrested for Protest Against MAGA Plaque

10 Ways to Turn Store-Bought Rotisserie Chicken Into a Healthy Dinner

A Leading Anti-Trump Voice Returns to Democrats' Top Think Tank

In Private Remarks on Russia, Rubio Tries to Reassure Europeans

A Lonely Holdout Where Republicans Still Resist Trump: Utah

Maher Knocks Trump's Gutting of the Federal Work Force

Editors' Picks

This City's Sewer System Is Full of Alligators, but It's Not New York

For These 20-Somethings, Trump 'Is Making It Sexy' to Be Republican

Inside the Oscar-Nominated Film That No Studio Will Touch

The New York Times

NEWS

Home Page
U.S.
World
Politics
New York
Education
Sports
Business
Tech
Science
Weather
The Great Read
Obituaries
Headway
Visual Investigations
The Magazine

ARTS

Book Review
Best Sellers Book List
Dance
Movies
Music
Pop Culture
Television
Theater
Visual Arts

LIFESTYLE

Health
Well
Food
Restaurant Reviews
Love
Travel
Style
Fashion
Real Estate
T Magazine

OPINION

Today's Opinion
Columnists
Editorials
Guest Essays
Op-Docs
Letters
Sunday Opinion
Opinion Video
Opinion Audio

MORE

Audio
Games
Cooking
Wirecutter
The Athletic
Jobs
Video
Graphics
Trending
Live Events
Corrections
Reader Center
TimesMachine
The Learning Network
School of The NYT
InEducation

ACCOUNT

Subscribe
 Manage My Account
 Home Delivery
 Gift Subscriptions

Group Subscriptions
Gift Articles
Email Newsletters

NYT Licensing
Replica Edition
Times Store

Exhibit 23

FACTCHECK POSTS > FEATURED POSTS

Crime Drop in Venezuela Does Not Prove Trump's Claim the Country Is Sending Criminals to U.S.

By Robert Farley and Catalina Jaramillo

Posted on June 14, 2024

THIS ARTICLE IS AVAILABLE IN BOTH ENGLISH AND ESPAÑOL

English



Para leer en español, vea esta traducción de El Tiempo Latino.

Anyone who has heard a speech by former President Donald Trump in the last few years has certainly heard his unsubstantiated claim that countries around the world are emptying their prisons and mental institutions and sending those people to the U.S.

Trump has offered scant support for this claim, but in virtually all of his recent speeches, he has been citing a reported drop in crime in Venezuela as evidence that the economically and politically beleaguered country is sending its criminals to the U.S.

Experts in and out of Venezuela told us there is no evidence to back up Trump's claim. Reported crime is trending down in Venezuela — though not nearly as dramatically as Trump claims — but crime experts in the country say there are numerous reasons for that and they have nothing to do with sending criminals to the U.S.

Nonetheless, it's hard to prove a negative, and those who follow Venezuelan politics say such a tactic is not beyond Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro, who has been in power since 2013 and is seeking another six-year term. The FBI acknowledges some Venezuelan criminals have migrated to the U.S., but there's no indication they were purposefully released from prison to come to this country.

When Trump makes such an explosive and sweeping claim — and makes it a hallmark of his case to return to office — the onus is on him to provide evidence. He hasn't. (His press office did not respond to our inquiries about it.) And the argument that Venezuelan crime is down is not the proof Trump suggests it is.

Trump's Claim

In recent speeches, Trump has sometimes said that crime is down “a staggering 67%” in Venezuela, while at other times he has put the drop in crime at “72% in a year.”

But in each case, as he did in a video posted to social media on June 4, he cited the statistics to support his claim, “They're taking their drug dealers and their people in jail, lots of people in jail, they're taking their murderers, their killers, they're taking them all and they're sending them into the United States.”

“Venezuela was crime ridden,” Trump said in remarks on May 31 after his conviction in the hush money case. “Caracas, their cities, crime ridden two years ago, three years ago. They just reported a 72% drop in crime in the last year because all of their criminals, most of them, and the rest are coming in now, the ones that didn't come in. In Venezuela, their prisons have been emptied into the United States. Their criminals and drug dealers have been taken out of the cities and brought into the United States, and that's true with many other countries.”

Ask FactCheck

Q: Did former President Joe Biden issue a statement saying that he thought the Equal Rights Amendment should be considered part of the Constitution?

A: Yes. On one of his last days in office, Biden published a statement supporting the ERA, but it has no legal effect.

[Read the full question and answer](#)
[View the Ask FactCheck archives](#)
 Have a question? [Ask us.](#)

Donate Now

Because facts matter.



SciCheck's COVID-19/Vaccination Project

Preempting and exposing vaccination and COVID-19 misinformation.



Proyecto de Vacunación/COVID-19

Precaviendo y exponiendo la desinformación sobre el COVID-19 y sus vacunas



SciCheck

Fact-checking science-based claims.



Facebook Initiative

Debunking viral claims.



Players Guide 2024

The special interest groups behind the TV ads.

"Venezuela was crime ridden." Trump said in remarks on May 31 after his conviction in the hush money case. "Caracas, their cities, crime ridden two years ago, three years ago. They just reported a 72% drop in crime in the last year because all of their criminals, most of them, and the rest are coming in now, the ones that didn't come in. In Venezuela, their prisons have been emptied into the United States. Their criminals and drug dealers have been taken out of the cities and brought into the United States, and that's true with many other countries."

In this report, we'll focus on Venezuela because that's the country most often cited by Trump.

Carlos Nieto of the Venezuelan nongovernmental organization [A Window to Freedom](#) is, of course, well aware of Trump's relentless insistence that Venezuelan officials have been systematically emptying their prisons and mental institutions and sending those people to the U.S.

Nieto, whose group has been monitoring the prison situation in Venezuela for more than 25 years, told us he has observed no evidence that supports Trump's claim. He added that there definitely is no official state policy to that effect.

Some criminals have emigrated from Venezuela, he told us in Spanish, and some have made their way to the U.S. But, he said, "there is nothing that can be affirmed that establishes that there is an agreement, or that the Venezuelan government is helping criminals leave Venezuela to go to the United States."

But neither can he rule out that it could be happening "under the hood."

"I do not doubt that it could be happening, nor do I doubt that it can be done," Nieto said. "I mean, these people, I'm talking about Maduro and his clique, are capable of that and many more things."

But that's pure speculation. And again, Nieto and other experts say they have seen no evidence of it.

Venezuelan Crime Stats

Reliable crime statistics in Venezuela are notoriously difficult to obtain. The government hasn't provided dependable crime reports in many years, Mike LaSusa, deputy director of content at InSight Crime, a think tank focused on crime and security in the Americas, told us via email.

Although Venezuelan security officials in May [reported](#) a 25% drop in crime this year compared with the same period in 2023, "the absence of official reports makes it impossible to verify the data," LaSusa said in a May 28 report.

In the absence of reliable government reporting, media and nongovernmental organizations have become the most trusted sources for documenting and tracking crime, LaSusa said.

One such NGO, the independent Venezuelan Observatory of Violence, in December reported a 25% decrease in violent deaths between 2022 and 2023. (Violent deaths include homicides, deaths by police intervention and suspected violent deaths under investigation.) That drop was [widely reported](#) in U.S. media. If Trump is citing the murder tally as a proxy for overall crime, he is vastly overstating the one-year drop.

But the number of violent deaths has been declining for years in Venezuela, according to the group's tallies, and is nearly 70% lower than it was in 2018, according to Roberto Briceño-León, the founder and director of the OVV (the acronym for Venezuelan Observatory of Violence in Spanish). That corresponds with Trump's figure, but, of course, that is a much longer time frame that predates the Biden administration.

LaSusa said the OVV's murder rate estimates track with InSight's observation about "a reduction in the intensity of criminal violence in certain areas of the country." But, he said, InSight has not seen a reduction in crime of 67% in a year, as Trump claimed.

"Additionally, the reductions that we have observed seem to respond largely to changes in criminal dynamics, rather than the effectiveness of the government's security policies," LaSusa said. "Basically, criminal groups seem to be seeking new opportunities outside of Venezuela due to the lack of opportunities in the country."



Debunking viral claims.



Players Guide 2024
The special interest groups behind the TV ads.



Viral Spiral
Don't get spun by internet rumors.



Sign Up
Get free email alerts.



Mailbag
Letters from our readers.



On the Air
Our staff on TV and radio.



NewsFeed Defenders
A media literacy game to detect misinformation.

"Additionally, the reductions that we have observed seem to respond largely to changes in criminal dynamics, rather than the effectiveness of the government's security policies," LaSusa said. "Basically, criminal groups seem to be seeking new opportunities outside of Venezuela due to the lack of opportunities in the country."

What's Driving the Crime Drop?

In its [Annual Report on Violence 2023](#), OVV documented 6,973 violent deaths in 2023, about 14% of which resulted from police enforcement. That's down from 9,447 and 9,367 in 2021 and 2022, respectively. That's a decline of 26% in the reported number of violent deaths between 2021 and 2023.

While the violent death rate may have dropped, a national survey conducted by OVV in mid-2023 found that about 78% of residents believed crime had stayed the same or gotten worse.

Briceño-León shared with us via email in Spanish some of the causes OVV identified for the drop in murders — none of which includes a government program to ship convicts to the U.S.

"We have no evidence that the Venezuelan government is emptying the prisons or mental hospitals to send them out of the country, whether to the USA or any other country," Briceño-León said.

Rather, he said, the drop in crime is due to worsening economic and living conditions in the country, which has led to a massive out-migration of nearly [8 million](#) people since 2014.

"Crime is reduced in Venezuela due to a reduction in crime opportunities: bank robberies disappear because there is no money to steal; kidnappings are reduced because there is no cash to pay ransoms; robberies on public transportation cease because travelers have no money in their pockets and old, worthless cell phones; and assaults on bank money dispensers disappear because the cash they can give to their clients has not exceeded twenty U.S. dollars," Briceño-León said.

There has also been a consolidation of gang activity, which has led to a reduction in crime. In its report, OVV wrote that the drop in crime "can be attributed to the reduction of disorganized criminal activities and the growing concentration and monopolization of violence by powerful criminal organizations. These criminal organizations are now focusing on specific niches of criminal opportunities, which has led to a decreased overall level of violence in the country."

"The decrease in 'disorganized' violence, which causes high lethality, has been reduced by the notable emigration of young people and the loss of opportunities for crime," the report stated. "In recent years, there has been a reduction in the lethality of violence in certain parts of the country. This trend has been attributed to agreements made between criminal gangs regarding the distribution of tasks during business operations, as well as the demarcation of areas of operation, which has allowed for their expansion and consolidation. However, in municipalities where there are no such agreements or where criminal control has not been fully established, violent events continue to occur."

The consolidation of organized crime has led to "a kind of mafia peace" in areas they control, Ronna Rísquez, a Venezuelan investigative journalist, told us in Spanish.

The "humanitarian emergency" in Venezuela has also had implications for criminals as well. Venezuela, she said, "stopped being attractive for crime, because it no longer made sense to kidnap ... It made no sense to steal, because everyone was poor. In Venezuela ... no one had money, people were starving and then for crime, for criminals, it was no longer profitable to have criminal activities."

Rísquez said another reason for the decrease in crime is that Venezuelan authorities, sometime between 2015 and 2021, began "a large number of alleged extrajudicial executions" of people accused of belonging to criminal groups.

The OVV report notes that some criminals have also left Venezuela "seeking to continue their criminal life in other places where they find greater opportunities for profit," Briceño-

Rísquez said another reason for the decrease in crime is that Venezuelan authorities, sometime between 2015 and 2021, began “a large number of alleged extrajudicial executions” of people accused of belonging to criminal groups.

The OVV report notes that some criminals have also left Venezuela “seeking to continue their criminal life in other places where they find greater opportunities for profit,” Briceño-León said. But, he said, the vast majority of emigrants from Venezuela are “honest workers fleeing the country’s poverty, looking for a job and a better future.”

The vast majority of those fleeing Venezuela have settled in nearby South American countries. But more and more are making their way to the U.S. Prior to President Joe Biden taking office, relatively few Venezuelan emigrants were intercepted by U.S. Border Patrol. For most of the 2010s, less than 100 Venezuelans a year were caught trying to cross the southwest border illegally. The number grew to more than 2,000 in fiscal year 2019. But beginning in 2021 the numbers began to swell, and topped 187,000 and 200,000 in the 2022 and 2023 fiscal years, respectively.



A Venezuelan asylum seeker carries his daughter before they cross the Rio Grande into Brownsville, Texas, in December 2022. The U.S. has seen a surge of migrants from Venezuela since 2021. Photo by Veronica G. Cardenas/ AFP via Getty Images.

As of January, the U.S. had the third-largest number of Venezuelan emigrants in the world (545,000) — though Colombia remained by far the largest destination (2.9 million), followed by Peru (1.5 million). Brazil, Ecuador, Chile and Spain each had roughly the same number as the U.S.

Criminal groups with origins in Venezuela have quickly spread to neighboring South American countries where most Venezuelans have settled. According to a U.S. State Department trafficking report for Colombia released in 2023, “El Tren de Aragua — Venezuela’s most powerful criminal gang — and the National Liberation Army (ELN) operate sex trafficking networks in the border town of Villa del Rosario in the Norte de Santander department. These groups exploit Venezuelan migrants and internally

displaced Colombians in sex trafficking and take advantage of economic vulnerabilities and subject them to debt bondage.”

And some criminals from Venezuela have come to the U.S.

Nieto, of the Venezuelan nongovernmental organization A Window to Freedom, attributed the decrease in crimes to the mass emigration from the country in recent years, a number, he said, that “undoubtedly does not exclude criminals.”

There is some evidence Tren de Aragua gang members have also made their way to the U.S. The U.S. Border Patrol told CNN en Español that 38 potential members of Tren de Aragua were arrested at the border between October 2022 and October 2023.

On April 5, U.S. Border Patrol Chief Jason Owens posted on social media to “[w]atch out for this gang. It is the most powerful in Venezuela, known for murder, drug trafficking, sex crimes, extortion, & other violent acts.”

And suspected members of the Venezuelan gang have been linked to a number of crimes in the U.S., including the murder of a former Venezuelan police officer in Miami in November, and a spate of cell phone robberies in New York City.

In March, Sen. Marco Rubio and Rep. María Elvira Salazar led a group of 23 federal legislators petitioning Biden to formally designate Tren de Aragua as a transnational criminal organization, which would allow the U.S. to freeze assets its members have in the U.S. In a Senate subcommittee hearing on April 11, Chris Landberg, deputy assistant

In March, Sen. Marco Rubio and Rep. María Elvira Salazar led a group of 23 federal legislators petitioning Biden to formally designate Tren de Aragua as a transnational criminal organization, which would allow the U.S. to freeze assets its members have in the U.S. In a Senate subcommittee [hearing](#) on April 11, Chris Landberg, deputy assistant secretary of the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, told Rubio that “we’re closely tracking Tren De Aragua and have similar concerns to you,” though he declined to discuss internal deliberations about its designation.

Rísquez, author of “[The Aragua Train: The gang that revolutionized organized crime in Latin America](#),” said that while some criminals are inevitably among those who have emigrated from Venezuela to the U.S., “There is no element, no evidence, nothing that indicates that in Venezuela prisoners are being released to leave or to be sent to the United States to commit crimes. There is no plan from the Venezuelan government that points toward that.”

Prison Releases

Complicating the issue is that Venezuela has, in fact, been actively trying to reduce its prison population.

Venezuela has been seeking to address [severe overcrowding](#) in its preventive detention centers, which were only designed to hold inmates for 48 hours but have become the de facto prisons of the country, Nieto said.

In March, the Presidential Commission for Judicial Revolution [announced](#) the release of 100 inmates from such a facility as part of a [directive](#) issued by Maduro to evaluate the preventive detention facilities and address overcrowding.

Preventive detention centers were designed to be temporary holding cells for people awaiting a court date. But that’s not what they became, Nieto said.

“The Ministry for the Penitentiary Service many years ago gave the order not to allow the entry of new people [to the traditional prisons] if they did not authorize it,” Nieto said. “This ministry prohibited the entry of new inmates into Venezuelan prisons, which is where they should be. This caused the preventive care centers to collapse and the preventive care centers to become, as they are today, the new prisons of Venezuela.”

Nieto estimates there are as many as 70,000 people held in these preventive care centers, far greater than they were designed to house.

In response, the government created two commissions to review the cases of prisoners and to determine if they should be “granted freedom,” Nieto said. “In fact, there are many who have been released.”

While some in the U.S. have claimed the Venezuelan government is releasing its most violent criminals, the Venezuelan government doesn’t disclose the charges against those released, so there’s no way of knowing, he said.

“Look, people are released, first, in many cases because they have been detained there for several years and a trial has not even been initiated against them,” Nieto said. “Also because in many cases they are minor crimes that do not merit such heavy penalties. So, well, that frees people. There are cases [of those] that have even already served the sentence established at that time.”

In addition, the Venezuelan government under Maduro has attempted recently to militarily [regain control](#) of traditional prisons, whose operation had previously been ceded to criminal groups. The leader of the Tren de Aragua gang, Héctor Rusthenford Guerrero Flores, and [hundreds of others](#) escaped from the prison where the gang originated shortly before the prison was raided by government authorities in September, [CNN en Español](#) reported. He [remains at large](#), and [InSight reported](#) that it is believed he is being protected by criminal associates in a mining town in Venezuela near the border with Guyana.

According to the [World Prison Brief](#) website maintained by [Helen Fair](#) of the Institute for

groups. The leader of the Tren de Aragua gang, Héctor Rusthenford Guerrero Flores, and hundreds of others escaped from the prison where the gang originated shortly before the prison was raided by government authorities in September, [CNN en Español](#) reported. He remains at large, and [InSight](#) reported that it is believed he is being protected by criminal associates in a mining town in Venezuela near the border with Guyana.

According to the [World Prison Brief](#) website maintained by [Helen Fair](#) of the Institute for Crime and Justice Police Research, Venezuela's prison population (not including pre-trial detainees) declined from 37,543 in 2020 to 32,200 in 2022 (and had been declining for the four years before that as well).

The government's efforts to retake control of the prisons "has involved relocating some prisoners from one prison to another, and there are some prisoners who are unaccounted for," LaSusa, of InSight, said. "However, the Venezuelan government has no known policy of selecting particular inmates to send them outside the country."

Speculation

Again, Trump has provided no evidence to back up his claim that the Venezuelan government is emptying its prisons and sending inmates to the U.S.

Some supporters of Trump's immigration policy say that, while perhaps speculative, there is good reason to believe Trump *may* be right.

Andrew Arthur of the Center for Immigration Studies, which advocates lower immigration, wrote a [column](#) noting that Cuba did something like that in the 1980s, and he argued that since there are ideological and political ties between Cuba and Venezuela, "the idea may not be as specious as some have claimed."

In 1980, Cuban leader Fidel Castro allowed the mass migration of some 125,000 Cubans to the U.S. in what was known as the [Mariel boatlift](#).

"Most were true refugees, many had families here, and the great majority has settled into American communities without mishap," the [Washington Post](#) wrote in 1983. "But the Cuban dictator played a cruel joke. He opened his jails and mental hospitals and put their inmates on the boats too."

According to the Post, about 22,000 of the new arrivals "freely admitted that they were convicts." Some were political prisoners, but others were convicts who had committed serious felonies, including violent crimes.

Arthur pointed to a drop in Venezuelan crime, the close alignment between the Cuban and Venezuelan governments, and anecdotal evidence of Venezuelans committing crimes in the U.S.

"None of this is evidence of anything," Arthur told us, but "all of this does raise some questions."

But the bar is higher than that for such a definitive and repeated claim by Trump, and numerous officials say they have seen no evidence to support Trump's claim. (Not to mention the fact that Trump claims the emptying of prisons and mental institutions is happening "with many other countries.")

"This claim has come up repeatedly about various countries, Venezuela is just the latest example," [Julia Gelatt](#), associate director of the U.S. Immigration Policy Program at the Migration Policy Institute, told us. "While the actions of institutions in Venezuela is not our specialty, we are unaware of any action by Venezuelan authorities (or those of any other country) to empty its jails and prisons or its mental-health institutions to send criminals or people with mental-health issues to the U.S."

"They are neither emptying the prisons nor the mental shelters to send people to the United States, nor is the reduction in crime associated with [Trump's claim]," Rísquez, the Venezuelan investigative journalist, told us. "Those statements by former President Trump, it seems to me that they have no basis, that they are political, that they have to do with, well, some intention to criminalize migration or the processes that are occurring in the United States with migrants."

In an [interview](#) with CBS News in March, Owens, the U.S. Border Patrol chief, was asked if it

“They are neither emptying the prisons nor the mental shelters to send people to the United States, nor is the situation in crime associated with [Trump’s claim],” Irujoquez, the Venezuelan investigative journalist, told us. “Those statements by former President Trump, it seems to me that they have no basis, that they are political, that they have to do with, well, some intention to criminalize migration or the processes that are occurring in the United States with migrants.”

In an [interview](#) with CBS News in March, Owens, the U.S. Border Patrol chief, was asked if it was accurate — as Trump has said — that “we have millions and millions of people coming from jails and prisons.”

“I don’t know,” Owens said. “I don’t know if other countries are releasing people from jails and those folks that got released are making their way up, or not, I don’t know what the numbers would be. It’s the unknown that scares us. I can tell you that there are at least 140,000 that we know about that have gotten away [since October], that we have detected but have not been able to apprehend. And I know there’s a good likelihood that there’s plenty more that we have not detected that also got away. Is it possible that at least a portion of them come from violent criminal backgrounds or served time in prison in other countries? Absolutely.”

But among the large number of Venezuelan migrants who are crossing illegally into the U.S. and then seeking asylum status, “I think they absolutely are by and large good people,” Owens said.

Nonetheless, he said, there is “a very small amount” among those apprehended that have criminal backgrounds, including “convicted sexual predators” and “convicted gang members.” Owens said it is only logical that there is a “higher incidence” of criminals among the so-called gotaways, because they are afraid to turn themselves in for CBP scrutiny.

“Most of the folks who we’re encountering that are turning themselves in, they’re coming across because they’re either fleeing terrible conditions or they’re economic migrants looking for a better way of life,” Owens said. “It doesn’t make them bad people. It’s just that they’re not being respectful of the laws that we’ve established as a country and they’re actually putting people in this country in harm’s way because they’re pulling the border security apparatus off of task.”

Editor’s note: FactCheck.org does not accept advertising. We rely on grants and individual donations from people like you. Please consider a donation. Credit card donations may be made through our “[Donate](#)” page. If you prefer to give by check, send to: FactCheck.org, Annenberg Public Policy Center, 202 S. 36th St., Philadelphia, PA 19104.

Categories [FactCheck Posts](#) [Featured Posts](#)

Tags [2024 Elections](#) [Presidential Election 2024](#)

Location [Venezuela](#)

Issue [Crime](#) [Illegal Immigration](#)

People [Donald Trump](#)

PREVIOUS STORY

[Posts Make Unsupported Claim About Kansas City Chiefs and Pride Month](#)

NEXT STORY

[Posts Misrepresent Old Video of Missile Test as Russian Ships Visit Cuba](#)

[ARCHIVES](#)

[PRIVACY](#)

[COPYRIGHT POLICY](#)

[CONTACT US](#)

[REPORT ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES AND GET HELP](#)

© Copyright 2025 FactCheck.org ®

A Project of The Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania

Exhibit 24

- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem

Nations like Venezuela are emptying their prisons of dangerous criminals to send them to America. They are happy to let America's open border be the solution to their problem.

The tragic murder in Georgia proves that Biden's border policies are putting our kids in danger.

foxnews.com/us/ice-confirm...



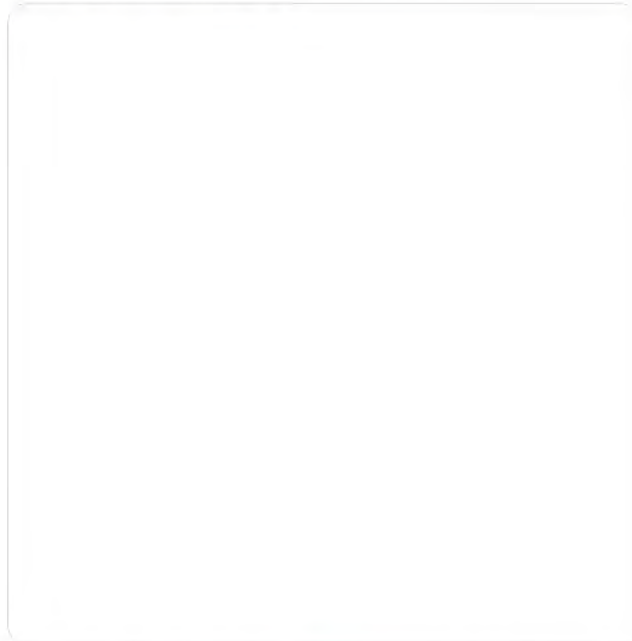
7:19 PM · Feb 26, 2024 · 185.2K Views

807 2.6K 8.3K 88

Post your reply

Reply

Marla Hohner @marlahohner · Feb 26, 2024
Again, it goes without saying:



45 21 101 3.2K

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Chris Pressley @sparty8607 · Feb 26, 2024
[#TrumpNoem2024](#)

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem **Follow**
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One. ...
Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.
Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending
Colony Ridge
10.7K posts

Politics · Trending
Medicaid
110K posts

Trending in United States
#NBAAIIStar
9,821 posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More ...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.



- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

- 45 21 101 3.2K
- Chris Pressley** @sparty8607 · Feb 26, 2024
#TrumpNoem2024
- 1 13 1.1K
- Craig** @Marine1CK · Feb 26, 2024
I have written and called my representatives, and they respond politely and say they are doing their best. They are liars, and Americans don't trust their leadership.
- 7 322
- John Brooks** @JohnBro13865445 · Feb 26, 2024
Similar to what Castro did years ago To the U.S.
- 6 245
- Red Bird 72** @RedBird725 · Feb 26, 2024
I find it to be very interesting that the governor of SD comments and shows more compassion than Pres Biden. Of course maybe because he created the border crisis, allowing this man into our country, makes it too embarrassing to face Americans.
- 5 1 148
- PhyllisA** @phyllisa99998 · Feb 26, 2024
Trump did this 🤔🤔
- 9 308
- Tuners** @Tuners36 · Feb 26, 2024
Time to send them back.
- 2 180
- James Holden** @jamesholden007 · Feb 26, 2024
Bidens egregious border policy would almost be laughable if it wasn't for the deaths and mayhem cause by allowing drugs and dangerous criminals in through the open border.
- 1 60
- hellcat_180mph** @hellcat_180mph · Feb 26, 2024
FJB

Relevant people



Kristi Noem @KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening



Khloe in Wonder Land LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending
Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending
Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States
#NBAAIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.



David Michaels @DavidMi47644829



Donald J. Trump @realDonaldTrump

Crooked Joe Biden's Border INVASION is destroying our country and killing our citizens! The horrible murder of 22-year-old Laken Riley at the University of Georgia should have NEVER happened! The monster who took her life illegally entered our Country in 2022...and then was released AGAIN by Radical Democrats in New York after injuring a CHILD!! When I am your President, we will immediately Seal the Border, Stop the Invasion, and on Day One, we will begin the largest deportation operation of illegal CRIMINALS in American History! May God Bless Laken Riley and her family!!! Our prayers are with you!



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Post

operation of illegal CRIMINALS in American History! May God Bless Laken Riley and her family!!! Our prayers are with you!

18

8

126

InquisitiveScout @scout8712 · Feb 26, 2024

Then why did djt give Venezuelans temporary legal status ?

POBrien-Blue Crew @obrien70p · 1h

jr., he was in the U.S. illegally from Venezuela. Your daddy dearest can take credit for giving Venezuelans legal status! He did this on 2/28/2019. 🇺🇸 Do you remember? You should. You were considered a "Top Advisor". Or were you in a stupor with Ronny!

Trump grants Venezuelans temporary legal status on his way out

The U.S. will defer for 18 months the removal of certain Venezuelan nationals.

Members of the audience were Venezuelan and American flags as President Donald Trump speaks to a Venezuelan American community in Miami, Fla., on Feb. 18, 2019. (Andrew Harnik/AP Photo)

12

Lisa Marie @Lisasinglee · Feb 26, 2024

Biden brought them here. Send Biden and the gang bangers to an island far away to live together.

22

Jerimiah Stapleton @jstapleton005 · Feb 26, 2024

When this country gets attacked, the blood will be on the hands of everyone who has voted for Democrats.

25

Corey Hall @OG_COREY_HALL · Feb 26, 2024

And now they are invading our state as well. I see them on the daily begging for money in Rapid City. Walking in huge packs with suitcases. Please get a handle on this!!!

7

InquisitiveScout @scout8712 · Feb 26, 2024

There's other issues putting people at risk- remember this killing? 🇺🇸🇺🇸

Ahmaud Arbery

UPDATED NOVEMBER 24, 2021 · 3:23 PM ET ·

By Merrit Kennedy, Jaclyn Diaz

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land
LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.
Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.
Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending
Colony Ridge
10.7K posts

Politics · Trending
Medicaid
110K posts

Trending in United States
#NBAAIIStar
9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829 ...



Home

Explore

2

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Case 3:25-cv-01766-EMC Document 166 Filed 06/03/25 Page 218 of 342

Post

MedSciInsights @Health_Vibes · Feb 26, 2024

1

2

1K

Mark R Sweeney @MarkSweeney777 · Feb 26, 2024

1

5

62

Hanshi ODonnell @HanshiODonnell · Feb 26, 2024

3

5

478

Tess Schmigiel @tschmigiel · Feb 26, 2024

4

97

Ruben Michaels @MicaelsRub... · Feb 26, 2024

11

16

61

1.7K

StOrMyNiGhT @Nautiguy48 · Feb 26, 2024

16

4

58

2K

Flash @1974_Pegasus · Feb 26, 2024

1

4

44

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

...

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land

LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One. Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric. Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More ...

© 2025 X Corp.

Grok

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

- Flash** @1974_Pegasus · Feb 26, 2024

This open border policy has put all of US in danger. Biden & adm have lied repeatedly! If Joe ever tells the truth, I won't believe it. But that's a big IF!

1 4 44
- Dianne Callahan** @DianneCallaha16 · Feb 27, 2024

This is a lie and she knows it. Remember, MAGA Republicans use fear and lies to intimidate voters.

14 9 60 1.6K

What she fails to tell you here is the truth. Trump signed an executive order deferring for 18 months the removal of more than 145,000 Venezuelans. Just the facts maim.
- Chase Odell** @ChaseOdell7 · Feb 26, 2024

Not open, but the GOP might be the problem.

Trump says he should be held responsible if the bipartisan border security deal fails: 'Please blame it on me'

House Republican says he won't accept a border deal because it may help Biden politically

Acyn @Acyn · 43m

Lankford: I had a popular commentator that told me flat out, if you try to move a bill that solves the border crisis during this presidential year, I will do whatever I can to destroy you. Because I do not want you to solve this during the presidential election.

The Recount @therecount · 1h

Rep. Dan Crenshaw (R-TX) says he's "extremely disappointed" in Republicans who want to "torpedo" border bill:

"If we have a bill that, on net, significantly decreases illegal immigration, and we sabotage that, that is inconsistent with what we told our voters we would do."

- C-Bo the Eggman** @CBoTheEggman · Feb 26, 2024

Trump tried to engineer a coup in Venezuela, but failed, creating more instability, and contributing to millions migrating out of the country seeking asylum. Trump also signed an order right before he left office that prohibited deportation of Venezuelans.

14 50 700
- Brooklyn Flowers** @BrooklynFlowe15 · Feb 26, 2024

anyone_wantch...
@anyone_wantch...
Follow

Trump cheated on Ivana with Marla & cheated on Marla with Melania & cheated on Melania with Stormy & Karen. Potential Trump VP Kristi Noem cheated on her husband with Corey Lewandowski, who's also married & had cheated on his wife with Hope Hicks. Family values my ass.

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829 ...

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloe in Wonder Land LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More ...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

husband with Corey Lewandowski, who's also married & had cheated on his wife with Hope Hicks. Family values my ass.



3 13 26 361

Grover One @groversmith1 · Feb 26, 2024
Congratulations on more lies dumped on your gullible followers.

You and your party are more interested in talking about the border than actually doing anything.

Dean Gloster @deangloster · Feb 26, 2024
The policy of blanket non-deportations of undocumented Venezuelans was Trump's, not Biden's.

wsj.com
Trump Approves Deportation Protections for V...
As one of his final acts in office, President Trump has authorized a program to give work...

3 6 15 471

Denise Wheeler @denisedwheeler · Feb 26, 2024
Kristi Noem is lying. In order to win FL in 2020, Trump needed the Venezuelan vote. He made a deal to give all Venezuelans living in the US illegally, deportation protections. He signed the executive order and Gaetz, DeSantis & Rubio helped arrange the protections w State Dept.

Bruce Bunner @BruceBunner1 · Feb 26, 2024
Kristi, when I see the GOP pass sensible gun legislation and an effort to stop this other than thoughts and prayers then I will believe you care about kids safety.



1 3 8 121

Deirdre Flanagan @DeirdreFlanagan · Feb 26, 2024

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Follow

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.
Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.
Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending
Colony Ridge
10.7K posts

Politics · Trending
Medicaid
110K posts

Trending in United States
#NBAAIIStar
9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Deirdre Flanagan @DeirdreFlanagan · Feb 26, 2024





Home



Explore



Notifications



Messages



Grok



Lists



Bookmarks



Jobs



Communities



Premium



Verified Orgs



Profile



More

Post



David Michaels

@DavidMi47644829



Deirdre Flanagan @DeirdreFlanagan · Feb 26, 2024



TRUTH: President Biden inherited an immigration system in tatters. The Trump administration cut off legal pathways to citizenship, leaving would-be migrants with fewer lawful methods of entering the country. They cut funding to Central American countries in 2019 as they splurged on an ineffective, costly wall.

It was the Trump administration that tightened sanctions on Cuba, Venezuela, and Nicaragua, exacerbating the macroeconomic crises that have led hundreds of thousands to flee and arrive at the southern border. When they pulled the rug out from various, essential assistance programs, they made the problem worse.

1 2 5 46



Mr. C @knowledgewins8 · Feb 26, 2024



Why is so hard to acknowledge that they are coming in from the North as well. Trudeau has allowed Chinese Military to train on our Northern border. Build a wall in the North!!!

2 1 17



ana mcnally @aimcnally1956 · Feb 27, 2024



Every nation in the world takes advantage of the Americans naivety

1 17



Be kind to Animals! @HOWS00NISN0W · Feb 26, 2024



Will you be adultering with any of them

2 9 219



Debra Ponto @PontoDebra · Feb 26, 2024



What did your Republicans do? Absolutely nothing because your cult leader told them not to. You just blow black smoke Kristi.

9 111



Gbob @lynn_hettinger · Feb 26, 2024



My God you're a liar.

1 8 100



Amy2972 @Amyy2972 · Feb 26, 2024



Yeah all those children being released from prison & crossing the border are coming here to target the children here. All anyone gets from you is political theater & playground politics. You help no one but yourself & that racist rapist you want back in the WH

12 148



Mick in SC @morrowmed · Feb 26, 2024



The guy in Georgia got in because the GOP voted no on funding border security. If Biden were a dictator like Putin the border would

Relevant people



Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening



Khloé in Wonder Land

LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy

Accessibility Ads info More ...

© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Post

He did it to appease Venezuelan migrants already living in Florida.

2

10

122

Gary Skye

@skye_gary

· Feb 26, 2024

Fear mongering, eh? Republicans are good at that.

2

8

154

Stronger Together

@Theni...

· Feb 26, 2024

Venezuela

Members of the audience wave Venezuelan and American flags as President Donald Trump speaks to a Venezuelan American community in Miami, Fla., on Feb. 18, 2019. | Andrew Harnik/AP Photo

By SARRINA RODRIGUEZ

01/19/2021 09:26 PM EST

President Donald Trump on Tuesday announced he will offer Venezuelan exiles protection from deportation, a move he has considered for years but refused to do until his last full day in office.

Trump is using the little-known Deferred Enforced Departure program, or DED, to offer temporary legal status to Venezuelans fleeing the humanitarian crisis brought on by Nicolás Maduro's regime. DED, similar to Temporary Protected Status or TPS, protects recipients from deportation and allows them to get work permits. However, it is granted directly by the president instead of the Department of Homeland Security.

3

8

192

Common Sense #1

@PleaseThink1776

· Feb 26, 2024

Trump's policy

Venezuela

Members of the audience wave Venezuelan and American flags as President Donald Trump speaks to a Venezuelan American community in Miami, Fla., on Feb. 18, 2019. | Andrew Harnik/AP Photo

By SARRINA RODRIGUEZ

01/19/2021 09:26 PM EST

President Donald Trump on Tuesday announced he will offer Venezuelan exiles protection from deportation, a move he has considered for years but refused to do until his last full day in office.

Trump is using the little-known Deferred Enforced Departure program, or DED, to offer temporary legal status to Venezuelans fleeing the humanitarian crisis brought on by Nicolás Maduro's regime. DED, similar to Temporary Protected Status or TPS, protects recipients from deportation and allows them to get work permits. However, it is granted directly by the president instead of the Department of Homeland Security.

5

9

174

LINDZEE

@WVUMAMA2

· Feb 27, 2024

Can you provide PROO that they are sending prisoners or is that just more Maga BS?

You know what's putting our kids in danger....GUNS!! They're the #1 cause of deaths in kids. Magas don't care because they get so much money from the NRA.

David Michaels

@DavidMi47644829

...

Relevant people

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land

LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More ...

© 2025 X Corp.

GROK

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Nations like Venezuela are emptying their prisons of dangerous criminals to send them to America. They are happy to let...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1762195636491825295
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 00:07:01 GMT

Page 10 of 37

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Post

Can you provide PROOF that they are sending prisoners or is that just more Maga BS?

You know what's putting our kids in danger...GUNS!! They're the #1 cause of deaths in kids. Magas don't care because they get so much money from the NRA.

11273

Brian Stevens

@bristevens · Feb 27, 2024

Trump's final act in office was to let the Venezuelan migrants stay here. But tell me more how this is Biden's fault.

1737

SAH1980

@SAH19801 · Feb 27, 2024

If you're up for VP you better brush up on Trump policies. He left this on the way out the door.

37

Trump grants Venezuelans temporary legal status on his way out

From politico.com

2790

Matt Reed

@Reedsrebels17 · Feb 27, 2024

Who is responsible for Venezuela emptying their prisons and paying the way for these criminals? China?

27453

Claude Bouchard

@ceebee308 · Feb 27, 2024

Speaking of Venezuela...

Trump orders 18-month halt to removal of Venezuelans from the U.S.

From reuters.com

3585

BravoBuzzard

@BravoBuzzard · Feb 27, 2024

It's the equity aspect of the DEI policy. Bringing down the greatness of our country levels the playing field of lesser countries.

119

TheRealMichaelScott

@MikeScott... · Feb 27, 2024

I hope trump picks you for VP candidate because it will ensure a President Biden win. Come on, loser Trump, pick the Palin-Cursed Noem for VP.

1

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land

LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More ...

© 2025 X Corp.

Grok

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Nations like Venezuela are emptying their prisons of dangerous criminals to send them to America. They are happy to let...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1762195636491825295
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 00:07:01 GMT

Page 11 of 37



- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

- TheRealMichaelScott** ... **@MikeScott...** · Feb 27, 2024
I hope trump picks you for VP candidate because it will ensure a President Biden win. Come on, loser Trump, pick the Palin-Cursed Noem for VP.
- comeonforsome** @comeonforsome · Feb 26, 2024
Give it up Trump is not gonna pick you because Corey
- Legacy Speaks** @LegacySpeaks2 · Feb 26, 2024
Wait. Trump loves the new president of Venezuela. Can't your god stop it?
- Coffee4me2** @Coffee4us123 · Feb 26, 2024
Call your senators?
- RESIST** ... **@DennyWill14** · Feb 26, 2024
FEAR MONGERING AND SENDING OUT HATE CRIME SIGNALS.....
LAW ENFORCEMNT SHOULD BE DOING SOMETHING ABOUT THE ATTEMPTED COUP OF A NATION THROUGH THE UNINTELLIGENT BABOONS LIKE NOEM, BOEBERT, MTG.
[@DOJ](#)
- Joe Cup** @Cupofjoe1962 · Feb 26, 2024
Sometimes you need to think outside the box



- Scott Carmichael** @scocrmch62 · Feb 26, 2024
[#LyingSackOf](#)
- Ramon Sasquatch** @MrDuck210 · Feb 26, 2024
A lot of other countries are sending the U.S. their criminals out of prisons. I believe the UN and Biden are in on this program together to flood the U.S. with criminals!

David Michaels ...
[@DavidMi47644829](#)

Relevant people

Kristi Noem
[@KristiNoem](#) **Follow**

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land
LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.
Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.
 Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending
Colony Ridge
10.7K posts

Politics · Trending
Medicaid
110K posts

Trending in United States
#NBAAIStar
9,821 posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More ...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

POLITICO

AD

EMPLOYMENT & IMMIGRATION

Trump grants Venezuelans temporary legal status on his way out

The U.S. will defer for 18 months the removal of certain Venezuelan nationals.

3

25

Skully And Molder @skull_talk · Feb 26, 2024

Remember when Trump, on his last day in office, when he could have done literally anything else, released 145,000 Venezuelan illegal immigrants from deportation? And he did it for political reasons. We best not elect THAT guy again!

AP ASSOCIATED PRESS
apnews.com
Trump blocks Venezuelans' deportation in last political gift

From apnews.com

5

136

bigguns69 @peirce_doug · Feb 26, 2024

Hell, most of our criminals are republicans.

4

39

sharon ginsburg @sharonginsburg · Feb 26, 2024

such a silly magat

5

Biggidy Banksta @Biggidy · Feb 26, 2024

Really? Emptying prisons? You know that's a huge stretch. Please stop with the fear mongering practice. You republicans are truly not interested in doing what's right for America. It's all about the criminal known as trump. He's not who y'all want him to be.

3

21

Wet Nose @misterfin2u · Feb 26, 2024

Might come up with a fact now and then. Show us these empty jails please.

2

27

charlie @herbiechar · Feb 26, 2024

Relevant people

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloe in Wonder Land

LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More ...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels

@DavidMi47644829

...





Home



Explore



Notifications



Messages



Grok



Lists



Bookmarks



Jobs



Communities



Premium



Verified Orgs



Profile



More

Post



Blue Dot in the Upstate @CaerulaCanisSC · Feb 26, 2024
You missed someone else if you're hitting immigration as it relates to Venezuela.

Unless you're not serious about this and it's all for show.



Members of the audience wave Venezuelan and American flags as President Donald Trump speaks to a Venezuelan American community in Miami, Fla., on Feb. 18, 2019. | Andrew Hamik/AP Photo

By SABRINA RODRIGUEZ
01/19/2021 09:24 PM EST



President Donald Trump on Tuesday announced he will offer Venezuelan exiles protection from deportation, a move he has considered for years but refused to do until his last full day in office.

Trump is using the little-known Deferred Enforced Departure program, or DED, to offer temporary legal status to Venezuelans fleeing the humanitarian crisis brought on by Nicolás Maduro's regime. DED, similar to Temporary Protected Status or TPS, protects recipients from deportation and allows them to get work permits. However, it is granted directly by the president instead of the Department of Homeland Security.



ChuSez @BillWilde388919 · Feb 26, 2024
Oh no! Is Corey endangered! We must do something!



Thomas S @Tjsplumb · Feb 26, 2024
Nobody believed Trump when he said this but it's true. These countries are giving their prisoners a one-one thousand count to escape



Morgothra @morgothra · Feb 26, 2024
The murderer that was released due to overcrowding that has resulted from GOP created budget problems.



WHY THERE IS A



David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people



Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening



Khloé in Wonder Land
LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIIStar

9,821 posts

Show more


Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy

Accessibility Ads info More ...

© 2025 X Corp.



resulted from GOP created budget problems.

**ripGOP**

**WHY THERE IS A
BORDER CRISIS IN 2023**
In 2022, Republicans voted against necessary border funding, opposing: \$7.2 billion for Border Patrol operations, including for hiring; \$65 million for 300 more Border Patrol agents; and \$60 million for additional personnel at ports of entry.

Republicans created the current problem so they could use the border as another fear mongering dog whistle against Biden.

Republicans put their party
NOT
America First.

37

 **Bill likes guitars** @TakamineBill · Feb 26, 2024
Dakota Barbie with delusions of relevance.

9

 **Balang** @Ba4lang · Feb 26, 2024
Send to your state 🤔

44

 **YachatsSteve** 🇺🇸 @stevepaul59 · Feb 26, 2024
Maybe they want to join your sex cult.



**C'MON, JUST LET ME SCHLAPP
IT AROUND A LITTLE. IT'S NOT
GAY IF WE DON'T TELL ANYONE**

 **Linda Duba** @sdduba · Feb 26, 2024
This is not the GOP that I remember. It's a cult
x.com/ProjectLincoln...





- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

 **David Michaels**
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

 **Kristi Noem** 
@KristiNoem **Follow**
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

 **Khloé in Wonder Land**
LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One. ...
Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.
Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending
Colony Ridge
10.7K posts

Politics · Trending
Medicaid
110K posts

Trending in United States
#NBAAIIStar
9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Linda Duba @sdduba · Feb 26, 2024

This is not the GOP that I remember. It's a cult
x.com/ProjectLincoln...

2

83

Jim Stratton - @jfstratton... @jf... · Feb 26, 2024

Shut up, you lying traitor.

1

5

30

Shieldmaiden Steph 🍌 @SotaSteph · Feb 26, 2024

4

99

A.S.Embree @s_embree1515 · Feb 26, 2024

Republicans voted down the very border policy they wrote in 2023 .
🤡🤡🤡 Trump had \$25 million in donations for the wall ,
Not one dime was spent on the wall just in private pockets.

6

61

Paullie @DragonsEyelImage · Feb 26, 2024

9

139

Relevant people

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land

LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More ...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels

@DavidMi47644829

Sir Bluey @voice97417 · Feb 26, 2024

Why must you lie about everything? That includes your marriage!



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Sir Bluey @voice97417 · Feb 26, 2024

Why must you lie about everything? That includes your marriage!

9

139


kj martin - out of Fs to give @martin_kj · Feb 26, 2024

Do you ever do work for South Dakota or do you just keep collecting their money for your salary and use their money for political stunts at the border?

6

140

Errol Edwards @es_edwards · Feb 26, 2024



7

143

Patriot Possum (Wes) @WesCo... · Feb 26, 2024

And no one can make biden close the border apparently

4

107

Tim @tim10bob · Feb 26, 2024

Quit fear mongering. @KristiNoem is such a liar. Do not believe her gaslighting lies. Forever Trumper, loser.

4

18

BlueInTN @apluswaw · Feb 26, 2024


HOWS COREY !

2


71

hnm19 @ogaI_c · Feb 26, 2024

@JoeBiden joeb @BarackObama @AliMayorkas



Relevant people



Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow


Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening



Khloé in Wonder Land

LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy Accessibility Ads info More ...

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Nations like Venezuela are emptying their prisons of dangerous criminals to send them to America. They are happy to let...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1762195636491825295
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 00:07:01 GMT

Page 19 of 37

- Home
 - Explore
 - Notifications
 - Messages
 - Grok
 - Lists
 - Bookmarks
 - Jobs
 - Communities
 - Premium
 - Verified Orgs
 - Profile
 - More
- Post



- Turd Ferguson @Drut_Ferg · Feb 26, 2024

Can you even find Venezuela on a map?

MAGA Republicans = Domestic Terrorists/Fascists
- Capp @Capp97403345 · Feb 26, 2024

Kristi - Are you just stupid or is gaslighting your only solution to everything? Grow a f**king brain, you miserable, sad and pathetic, sorry-excuse-for-a-Governor, let alone an American. FFS! Also, once again, THIS:

I saw earlier today that Venezuela crime is at a 23 year low going back to 2001 - Imagine my surprise.
- Delzerie Ortega @DelzerieOrtega · Feb 26, 2024

Shame on you.
- "You look tired" means you loo... @tfran... · Feb 26, 2024

Did this happen?

A pie chart with a blue section representing 100% and a yellow section representing 0%. The blue section is labeled "No" and the yellow section is labeled "No but in yellow".

Response	Percentage
No	100%
No but in yellow	0%
- DayneKnite @DayneKnite · Feb 26, 2024

The Venezuelan TPS Act was originally proposed to the US Congress on Jan 15, 2019, but the act failed. However, just before leaving office, Trump personally granted DED to Venezuela on Jan 19, 2021

Meaning Venezuelans enjoy a temporary legal immigration status.

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

- Khloé in Wonder Land
LIVE
- Jeep. There's Only One. Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric. Promoted by jeep
- Politics · Trending Colony Ridge 10.7K posts
- Politics · Trending Medicaid 110K posts
- Trending in United States #NBAAIIStar 9,821 posts
- Show more
- Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy Accessibility Ads info More ... © 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Post

on Jan 15, 2019, but the act failed. However, just before leaving office, Trump personally granted DED to Venezuela on Jan 19, 2021

Meaning Venezuelans enjoy a temporary legal immigration status.

5

150

Doc Whitfield @BBTB76 · Feb 26, 2024

Love this lady Patriot. SouthDakota got blessed when she became governor. Way to go governor Noem. We in North Carolina have been watching you do the stand tall job that our governor is afraid to do.

2

103

2ndDIVGhetto @350inBull · Feb 26, 2024

How's Corey?

2

42

KempCorruptGA @ga_kemp · Feb 26, 2024

Hmm, it was Trump who allowed all Venezuelans in without exception.

1

11

colleen @whataprettycow · Feb 26, 2024

Trump owns the border now. Go tell the adjudicated rapist fraud that we blame him. He told us to blame him so we do. I hope he picks you for VP. We've never had an all-Adulterous ticket before.

2

14

Bill wolf @Wwolfhunt · Feb 26, 2024

It's tragic, that House Republican shut down the bipartisan, Senate border bill, and Republicans threw up in the southern border! How shameful that the Republican border crisis rages on, costing us valuable American lives.


29

#RepublicanBorderCrisis

chigobiker3130 @chigobiker3130 · Feb 26, 2024

Trump grants Venezuelans temporary legal status on his way out

The U.S. will defer for 18 months the removal of certain Venezuelan nationals.



Members of the audience wave Venezuelan and American flags as President Donald Trump speaks to a Venezuelan American community in Miami, Fla., on Feb. 18, 2019. | Andrew Harnik/AP Photo

By SABRINA RODRIGUEZ
01/19/2021 09:24 PM EST

2

AssCalloway @AssCalloway · Feb 26, 2024

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow


Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening



Khloé in Wonder Land
LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels

@DavidMi47644829

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Nations like Venezuela are emptying their prisons of dangerous criminals to send them to America. They are happy to let...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1762195636491825295
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 00:07:01 GMT

Page 21 of 37

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

- S.J. Israel

@sjisrael738 · Feb 26, 2024

what about the MAGA targeted attack on the Tree of Life Synagogue?

14
- P Hawkins

@PrideHawkins · Feb 26, 2024

Why did the former president let those people in then if they are so dangerous? It is funny because a while back England emptied their prisons out to send those people to America? That is partly how Georgia was founded but you wouldn't know anything about that would you?

6
- bill truther

@BillTruther · Feb 26, 2024

6
- Generalissimo Donald El Trumpo ...

@... · Feb 26, 2024

Do you have any proof that the Venezuelan government is sending prisoners to the US, or is it just some creative political rhetoric? Wait...wait...Don't answer, Krispi.

1
- Rebel Just 4 Kicks

@toniadyson1010 · Feb 26, 2024

#lies are all you #republicans have



3

Relevant people

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land

LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More ...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.



X

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Post

MILLIONS OF STATE OF THE ART TOOLS TO COMBAT DRUGS, AND MUCH MORE
REPUBLICAN SENATORS GOT EVERYTHING THEY WANTED
BUT JOHNSON SAYS THE BILL IS DOA

3

26

Rebel Just 4 Kicks

@toniadyson1010 · Feb 26, 2024



Hi!
I'm Mike Johnson. I'm keeping the border open
and letting your kid die from fentanyl for
Donald Trump.

4

24

Barbara Ketchum

@BarbaraKetchum7 · Feb 26, 2024

You just watch our military if war comes to our land!
Have no doubt at all.
They will defend us, their families, and their homeland despite any
other orders!
Hell hath no fury as an American scorned!
They will not stand with Biden.



RESPECT

1

24

YachatsSteve

@stevepaul59 · Feb 26, 2024



'M SORRY...
COULDN'T
UNDERSTAND YOU
WITH DONALD TRUMP'S


It's A life!

It's A right!

children

 David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people



Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer,
rancher, and small business owner.
Secretary of the U.S. Department
of Homeland Security. Former
Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to
write your own longer
posts

Write longer posts and apply text
formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening



Khloé in Wonder Land

LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose
electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.



X

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post



Nt Paris @1ahilton · Feb 26, 2024
Cult follower

OUT OF FUQS QWEEN @SanteenaR · Feb 26, 2024
Lying POS



From statesman.com

Skelly Duncan @DuncanSkelly · Feb 26, 2024
Your incompetent Speaker from Louisiana is the problem. Trump will not "allow" him to pass the bill.



Kyle Michel Sullivan: Pure liber... @kms... · Feb 26, 2024
You're ridiculous.

Relevant people

Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land
LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIIStar


9,821 posts





Show more


Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.



Post

 **Kyle Michel Sullivan: Pure liber...** @kms... · Feb 26, 2024 ✕ ...
You're ridiculous.




 4
 


 **mike E** @mike_sstempest · Feb 26, 2024 ✕ ...

Republicans searching for ways to clear trump's name.





 5
  20
 


Gustavo @GusHurt13 · Feb 26, 2024





 3
  18
 


Tammy Swanson @TammySw96725525 · Feb 26, 2024
I wish you would use all these focus and energy on SD... you know the star where you are Governor!!

 4
 57

 fore_not_four (*William Drumm...* @altimagu... · Feb 26, 2024) x1 ...

David Michaels ...
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people



Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening



Khloé in Wonder Land
LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One. ...

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

✦ Promoted by Jeep

Politics · Trending ...

Colony Ridge
10.7K posts

Politics · Trending ...

Medicaid
110K posts

Trending in United States ...

#NBAAIISar
9,821 posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)
[Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#)
[Ads info](#)
[More ...](#)
 © 2025 X Corp.



- X
 - Home
 - Explore
 - Notifications
 - Messages
 - Grok
 - Lists
 - Bookmarks
 - Jobs
 - Communities
 - Premium
 - Verified Orgs
 - Profile
 - More
- Post

- 

I wish you would use all these focus and energy on SD... you know the star where you are Governor!!

4 57
- 

fore_not_four (*William Drumm...*) @altimagu... · Feb 26, 2024
Just had a thought 🤔
If they commit a crime & their country won't take them back, deport them to Ukraine to fight for them.

5 68
- 

thzink111 @michaeldug20676 · Feb 26, 2024
GFY.

4 61
- 

Keith Butler @keithrbutler · Feb 26, 2024
This is a lie and the worst kind of fear mongering!! Crime among immigrants is actually lower than among our resident population!!

1 3 18
- 

James Tarr @JatarrTarr · Feb 26, 2024
Trump should have foreseen that before he granted them special status.

3 21
- 

BANG! @TheNewsBox1 · Feb 26, 2024
OMG Kristi...that means you will be holding oral interviews in the men's room again huh

4 20
- 

Jeff @jjfsls2 · Feb 27, 2024




Cat @CommandersNMgal · Jan 26, 2024
Replying to @MajesticResists and @LePapillonBlu2



ON PASSAGE
H R 3401
YEA NAY PRES NV
DEMOCRATIC 227 4
REPUBLICAN 2 191 5
INDEPENDENT
TOTALS 229 195 9
TIME REMAINING 0:00
GSPAN

1 1 39



Darla B - DarlaB.bsky.social @Darla_B · Feb 27, 2024
Our most dangerous criminals are the traitorous Republicans infesting the House and Senate and their fuhrer, Trump. Speaking of which, remember how Trump gave 145,000 Venezuelan migrants an 18 month extended stay just before he left office?



David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people




Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Follow

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

- What's happening**
- 

Khloe in Wonder Land
LIVE
- Jeep. There's Only One.**
Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.
Promoted by jeep
- Politics · Trending
Colony Ridge
10.7K posts
- Politics · Trending
Medicaid
110K posts
- Trending in United States
#NBAAIStar
9,821 posts
- Show more
- Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.



- X
 - Home
 - Explore
 - Notifications
 - Messages
 - Grok
 - Lists
 - Bookmarks
 - Jobs
 - Communities
 - Premium
 - Verified Orgs
 - Profile
 - More
- Post

Post
an 18 month extended stay just before he left office?



From apnews.com

- I Didn't Vote For The PayPal ... @Anothe... · Feb 27, 2024

Quack quack, duck lips

11
- brian @Brian1Million · Feb 27, 2024

Well, I would venture to say that Venezuelan's prisons are filled with academics, so maybe not a bad thing?

15
- 1 @BigOneEagle · Feb 27, 2024

A federal abortion ban will kill even more women. Assault weapons will kill even more in mass.

10
- BeckyWillisMotew @BeckyWMotew · Feb 27, 2024

And to think your party could've helped solve it.

11
- Brad Lovett @Brad_Lovett · Feb 27, 2024

Scary brown people!

60
- Larry McQuinn @LarryMcQuinn3 · Feb 27, 2024

My VP pick, actually a couple years running 🐻

50
- Effina @effinalavina · Feb 27, 2024

It was said today you couldn't be trumps VP because you have too much history with him.

14
- Obeah @obeah323 · Feb 26, 2024

Gnome is such a tiny racist bore.

13
- Invisible Fame @fameinvisible · Feb 27, 2024

I've been to Venezuela and been interrogated by their military. They are completely different from all other South American countries. America needs to wake up.

31
- Tami Drew @tamaloutoo_y · Feb 27, 2024

You can thank Trump, who in January 2021 signed a law

Relevant people

Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land
LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by Jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy Accessibility Ads info More ...

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829





- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post



- sm** @sandormmiklos · Feb 27, 2024
Lie
2 replies 6 likes 41 retweets
- mark Zarzeka** @MarkZarzeka · Feb 27, 2024
Looks like Trump was right again!
1 reply 1 like 37 retweets
- Mark Jackson** @Raisethis2 · Feb 27, 2024
Hopefully they all end up in South Dakota.
1 reply 5 likes 61 retweets
- Scott Rice** @ScottRi83425869 · Feb 27, 2024
Wow, someone in government finally figures it out. Fidel Castro pulled his shit on Jimmy Carter and that dumbass. Let a bunch of Cuban criminals into the country. Biden, Carter, the two biggest failures in American history.
1 like 11 retweets
- Harry Watts** @habwatts · Feb 27, 2024
Blame Jesus Johnson
2 likes 34 retweets
- Richard Brown** @cypherbob · Feb 27, 2024
Where do they come up with these lies?
2 likes 40 retweets
- WeTheNorth** @FrankieDells6 · Feb 27, 2024
Where is Corey?
2 likes 37 retweets
- James Childress** @chillie1313 · Feb 27, 2024
That's what Fidel did!
2 likes 46 retweets

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829 ...

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem **Follow**
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One. ...
Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.
Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending
Colony Ridge
10.7K posts

Politics · Trending
Medicaid
110K posts

Trending in United States
#NBAAIStar
9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.



X

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Post

James Childress @chillie1313 · Feb 27, 2024

That's what Fidel did!

2

46

37

Reply

Retweet

Like

Bookmark

Share

Post

🇺🇸🇲🇦🇷🇹🇦 @KariTrump · Feb 27, 2024

Gunning for VP again today I see.

2

43

37

Reply

Retweet

Like

Bookmark

Share

Post

Mary Ward @Wardmaryb · Feb 27, 2024

And a former President Trump issued an executive order protecting immigrants from Venezuela from deportation. Have you asked him why?

trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/presidential-a-...

1

24

37

Reply

Retweet

Like

Bookmark

Share

Post

Edwina Anderson @edmiester · Feb 27, 2024

If they end up in South Dakota, I'm ok with that.

2

50

37

Reply

Retweet

Like

Bookmark

Share

Post

Sandra Callnan @CallnanSandra · Feb 27, 2024

Bla Bla Bla.

1

7

37

Reply

Retweet

Like

Bookmark

Share

Post

Anti Orange @elpers_tho4411 · Feb 27, 2024

We need to fill a prison cell with your orange messiah, the freaking sexually deviant RAPIST!!!!

1

9

37

Reply

Retweet

Like

Bookmark

Share

Post

Scooter 🇺🇸🇷🇺 @scootey · Feb 27, 2024

@CommunityNotes This is a flat out lie.

1

9

37

Reply

Retweet

Like

Bookmark

Share

Post

Patrick conlisk @PConlisk · Feb 27, 2024

Huh, you sound like, oh I don't know, the bad hair guy?

1

10

37

Reply

Retweet

Like

Bookmark

Share

Post

Mike G Urquhart @LosAngeles4me_ · Feb 27, 2024

I think you are the obvious choice for VP.

3

33

37

Reply

Retweet

Like

Bookmark

Share

Post

annski4KS 🌻🇺🇸 @annskis · Feb 27, 2024

Any actual evidence or just wishful thinking?

3

33

37

Reply

Retweet

Like

Bookmark

Share

David Michaels

@DavidMi47644829

...

Relevant people

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land

LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More ...

© 2025 X Corp.

GIVE ME ATTENTION!

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Nations like Venezuela are emptying their prisons of dangerous criminals to send them to America. They are happy to let...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1762195636491825295
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 00:07:01 GMT

Page 30 of 37



- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

- Tone** @Harleyandink · Feb 27, 2024
BUT the tragic murder of innocents in mass shootings because of the Republicans and their right that every lunatic can own an assault rifle is OK.
- Mad Scientist** @riledScientist · Feb 27, 2024
Why do you keep telling the world our border is OPEN?
YOU ARE FKING INVITING PEOPLE TO COME!
And the rest of you "emptying prisons" bullshit is just nazi level lies
- Rob** @Robsmi81704936 · Feb 27, 2024
GOP own the border crisis because Trump prevented a strong Republican border bill to pass for political reasons.
GOP work for Trump not the America People.
Traitors
- Tha Duece** @jsnjarrell76 · Feb 27, 2024
So what actions is your state taking against those countries banning them from doing any business or selling goods in your state ??
- simbad909** @simbad909 · Feb 27, 2024
Yes
- SirGizmo170** @SirGizmo170 · Feb 27, 2024
Congress has known this for 3 years and done nothing. All 4 yrs of Trumps' Presidency, the Dems barely waited 1 day before they filed another investigation/impeachment, etc. GOP are pure cowards! 20K ICE agents @66k/year=1,320,000.00 per year x 3=almost 4 Billion WASTED
- SirGizmo170** @SirGizmo170 · Feb 27, 2024
I AM embarrassed at how the GOP are handling crises. Zero consequences as the Dems violate Federal Laws, violate the US Constitution, do whatever they wish & the GOP has done NOTHING. Their lawlessness runs circles around the GOP; you'll schedule a meeting. Power of the Purse?
- Zachary Lucas Kidd** @zach73533 · Feb 27, 2024
God Bless you Kristi. You have the backbone & integrity we need right now. You have witnessed the spineless republicans who haven't backed President Trump. I wish you the best & I will always back you. Thank you for showing our nation what a true American is made of. God Bless!
- Active Andres** @Fel702 · Feb 27, 2024
Yeah, but you know what's funny? The government of Venezuela was on the brink of cracking down, and Biden came out of heaven and started buying gas from them to try to fight the gas prices in the US, Nicolas Maburro I mean Maduro says that he doesn't have the resources to keep
- Downgraded** @RavStateRanter · Feb 27, 2024

Relevant people**Kristi Noem** @KristiNoem**Follow**

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe**What's happening****Khloé in Wonder Land** LIVE**Jeep. There's Only One.**

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIIStar

9,821 posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)

[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More...](#)

© 2025 X Corp.

**David Michaels** @DavidMi47644829

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Post

the US, Nicolas Maduro I mean Maduro says that he doesn't have the resources to keep

Show more

1

6

189

Downgraded

@BayStateBanter · Feb 27, 2024

Castro did the same thing

The Mariel Boatlift: How Cold War Politics Drove Thousands of Cubans ...

From history.com

2

32

caring

@caringguy1957 · Feb 27, 2024

The tragic murder in Georgia proves that the Republican's lack of border policies are putting our kids in danger.

3

17

itswhatithink

@conservemontana · Feb 27, 2024

We've known this 2 years and only now @KristiNoem is speaking about it. Every country released their criminals to come here and she has had a long time to stop it but didn't event mention it until election period. We need LEADERS in high office Kristi..not followers.

9

Anarchy7906

@northbound2017 · Feb 27, 2024

Kristi for VP!

33

Nutshell Truths

@NutshellTruths · Feb 27, 2024

This week the Trump GQP will be responsible for thousands of Ukrainians being killed thanks to their pro-Putin idiocy, then on Friday they'll be responsible for the deaths of Americans when the government shuts down.
The Trump GQP.
Actively working to destroy America & democracy.

Jackie Daytona

@zottsingtao · Feb 27, 2024

nope. you're an idiot.

CallaLilly33

@CLilly33 · Feb 27, 2024

"WE HAVE A CATASTROPHE AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER."
BUT WE

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land

LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More ...

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels

@DavidMi47644829

...

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Nations like Venezuela are emptying their prisons of dangerous criminals to send them to America. They are happy to let...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1762195636491825295
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 00:07:01 GMT

Page 33 of 37

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Post

Churchees assisting with moving illegals into the country. This video is telling. [youtube.com/watch?v=sgag7m...](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sgag7m...)

1

4

42

Joe Bush @JoeBush1214 · Feb 27, 2024
Nice of Corey to write that for you!

3

37

Cindy Downey @CindyDo83420405 · Feb 27, 2024
Apparently you forgot frump gave asylum to Venezuela. The accused is from Venezuela.

1

12

Aaron Pepelis @apepelis · Feb 27, 2024
False.

2

31

furrfu! @DougMount · Feb 27, 2024
Still mad about the fireworks?

1

29

Nancy Sinclair @TeamEPFitness · Feb 27, 2024
🤔🤔🤔🤔🤔🤔

2

38

Search

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Follow

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy Accessibility Ads info More ...

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829





Home



Explore



Notifications



Messages



Grok



Lists



Bookmarks



Jobs



Communities



Premium



Verified Orgs



Profile



More

Post



Nancy Sinclair @TeamEPFitness · Feb 27, 2024



2

38



Relevant people



Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Subscribe to Premium to write your own longer posts

Write longer posts and apply text formatting such as bold and italic.

Subscribe

What's happening



Khloé in Wonder Land
LIVE

Jeep. There's Only One.

Choose gas. Choose hybrid. Choose electric.

Promoted by Jeep

Politics · Trending

Colony Ridge

10.7K posts

Politics · Trending

Medicaid

110K posts

Trending in United States

#NBAAIStar

9,821 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy

Accessibility Ads info More ...

© 2025 X Corp.



David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829



Exhibit 25

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Venezuela didn't send us their best. They emptied their prisons and sent criminals to America.

Deportations need to start on DAY ONE of [@realDonaldTrump](#)'s term.

Fox News

@FoxNews · Feb 27, 2024

Venezuelan migrant illegally in US charged for sexual assault against minor in Virginia trib.al/QAZB0dQ

1:26 AM · Feb 28, 2024 · 74.8K Views

231

808

3.6K

21

Post your reply

Reply

K @kgboulder · Feb 28, 2024

They're committing less crime than our citizens so I'm okay with it

1

5

74

mike nelson

@mheathnelson · Feb 28, 2024

Straight out of the Castro playbook

1

4

251

Heartgirl0316 @Heartgirl0316 · Feb 28, 2024

Replying to @seanhannity

The Republicans won't stop at killing Roe vs Wade or IVF, the extreme wacky messed up MAGA are coming after Contraception too !! Vote for freedom ladies!
Vote Blue

10

David Michaels

@DavidMi47644829

Teddy's Mama

@nivaught2 · Feb 28, 2024

Recent

Clear all

Q

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...

X

Q

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...

X

Q

("Washington settlement") (fr...

X

Q

("Smith-Washington settleme...

X

Q

("settlement") (from:hollycap...

X

Q

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

X

Q

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

X

Relevant people

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Fox News

@FoxNews

Follow

Follow America's #1 cable news network, delivering you breaking news, insightful analysis, and must-see videos.
[foxnews.com/contact](#)

What's happening

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

10

Teddy's Mama @pjvaught2 · Feb 28, 2024
100 100 100 100 100 100

8

Alec Callen @AlecCallen78237 · Feb 28, 2024
👍👍👍

10

Anne Thompson @lpnanne · Feb 28, 2024
They need to start ASAP. Someone needs to get busy.

47

Rick Gagne @RickGagne394052 · Feb 28, 2024
Exactly

51

Nate @VolckersThesis · Feb 28, 2024
So we won't focus on inauguration crowd size on day 1 this time??

2

168

ChuSez 🇺🇸🇧🇪🇦🇷 @BillWilde388919 · Feb 28, 2024
"Must...Protect...Corey..."

2

36

C Steele @CarolSteel73373 · Feb 28, 2024
Noem, what's your point? This kind of thing has happened before. Remember Scarface ??

7

DocRocket 🇺🇸 @DocRockett · Feb 28, 2024
Problem no one's talking about. We need to fix ICE response time (slo roll), or pass a law making detainment absent due process legal till they get to the jail. And ICE picks up tab. It's a huge problem.

4

lawndawgii @Orlando37698630 · Feb 28, 2024
Trump was right again

1

26

Nathan @EatSomeAcorns · Feb 28, 2024
Venezuela didn't "send them" they are fleeing a murderous dictator.

Recent Clear all

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc... ×

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci... ×

("Washington settlement") (fr... ×

("Smith-Washington settleme... ×

("settlement") (from:hollycap... ×

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino) ×

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino) ×

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

[Show more](#)

Terms of Service · Privacy Policy · Cookie Policy

Accessibility · Ads info · More...

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829 ...





- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post



David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829



Trump was right again



Nathan @EatSomeAcorns · Feb 28, 2024

Venezuela didn't "send them" they are fleeing a murderous dictator.



ToneDoctor @AmpegBabyBass76 · Feb 28, 2024

Thank you KN.



Cindy Peterson @TribSportsLady · Feb 28, 2024

Burns my ass



Eric Yake @YakeEric · Feb 28, 2024

Bitch please. Trump made an agreement with Venezuela. You be stupid. Not Best. Oh! And slut.



Jeffrey wilen @jeffrey_w_1776 · Feb 28, 2024

Trump was right again



J @MrJ25 · Feb 29, 2024

You think the best people came over on the Mayflower? Nope.



Robert @62RAB · Feb 28, 2024

Just saw a report that murder is way down in Venezuela due in large part to emigration of the offenders. Gee, I wonder where they went.



Rockland Democrats @rcdcdems · Feb 28, 2024

The Republicans. They're not sending their best.



Antifa South Dakota Chapter @SD_Antifa · Feb 29, 2024

You're trying to send a criminal to the White House.



Trump: Narcissistic conman d... @Sedi... · Feb 29, 2024

Trump used the Deferred Enforced Departure program offering temporary legal status to Venezuelans January 19, 2021.



■ Jose Antonio Ibarra, suspect in Laken Riley's death, is Venezuelan.



■ Trump had Republicans reject the bi-partisan Border Act of 2024.



➔ Republicans own this.



Robert Simkavitz @RN8mfxhwm2g · Feb 28, 2024

What can actual Americans do to keep Speaker Johnson from funding Ukraine and not addressing the border?



Bill Kennedy @bk5137 · Feb 28, 2024

Deportations of Venezuelans ENDED on Trump's last day in office by HIS hand. Trump made it possible for them to stay here! Why would we bring him back for more?

Recent

Clear all



("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc... ✕



("Smith") (from:hollycappucci... ✕



("Washington settlement") (fr... ✕



("Smith-Washington settleme... ✕



("settlement") (from:hollycap... ✕



("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino ✕



("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino ✕



Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy

Accessibility Ads info More...

© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

- Bill Kennedy** @bk5137 · Feb 28, 2024
Deportations of Venezuelans ENDED on Trump's last day in office by HIS hand. Trump made it possible for them to stay here! Why would we bring him back for more?
1 21
- Luke** @JDLuckenbach · Feb 28, 2024
Nor has the Republicans sent their best... but unfortunately there's nowhere we can deport them.
8 156
- Emil Vicale** @EmilVicale · Feb 28, 2024
Of course, they didn't!
2 262
- Brett Murphy** @PatriotPointman · Feb 28, 2024
Yes!
375
- Whitey McWhite Face** @McWhiteywhite1 · Feb 28, 2024
South Dakota didn't elect their best. At least I hope not.
4 69
- Vivek knew!** @GpKennedy · Feb 28, 2024
Are these the ones that Trump pardoned while he was still President?
1 30
- Robert Blomstrom** @BlomstromR... · Feb 28, 2024
Donald Trump didn't send his best either. They attacked our Capitol. Yet you have a stench filled desire to be his right hand gal. You're equal to the worst of the Venezuelans.
2 152
- domasian99** @domasian995 · Feb 28, 2024
What does Cory think about all these?
13
- Katie Orth** @korthtulsa · Feb 28, 2024
You apparently have no recollection of trump granting Venezuelans a legal stay before he was fired. Do better
7
- Profiler** @hoov2010 · Feb 28, 2024
Spoken like a true VP candidate. As long it is NOT @votetimscott
8
- Cleveland Maxwell** @ClevelandMaxwe5 · Feb 28, 2024
Thank Trump for the sanctions he put on Venezuela.
10
- azlizardman** @falise_thomas · Feb 28, 2024
You're a disgusting human.
8
- Indiana Women's Action Mov...** @Indiana... · Feb 28, 2024
How do you decide who to deport?
14

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Recent

Clear all

Q

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...

X

Q

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...

X

Q

("Washington settlement") (fr...

X

Q

("Smith-Washington settleme...

X

Q

("settlement") (from:hollycap...

X

Q

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

X

Q

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

X

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

...

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

...

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy

Accessibility Ads info More...

© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

- Indiana Women's Action Mov...** @Indiana... · Feb 28, 2024 · 14

How do you decide who to deport?
- Don'tfactcheckmebro** @sking123195... · Feb 28, 2024 · 14

must have been a Minnesota GOP fundraiser,,you know who i mean KKKristi
- ctfw529** @ctfw529 · Feb 28, 2024 · 7

He already broke that promise multiple times, so...
- Carlos Castanon** @ccastavelaz · Feb 28, 2024 · 14

Agree deport them immediately
- Gregory Martin** @LouisvilleMartin · Feb 28, 2024 · 11

Ger rid off them, they snaked past people doing it the correct way and that is not right.
- Skelly Duncan** @DuncanSkelly · Feb 28, 2024 · 15



Dear **Kristi Noem**

You say South Dakota won't be taking any more **illegal immigrants**, yet you and every other white South Dakotan **literally illegally** immigrated here.

Curious.

Sitting Bull
Founder, Real South Dakota



- CheriNotCherry** @H_AmorinForge · Feb 28, 2024 · 15

1/20/2021 Trump extended the stay of deportation for 145,000 Venezuelans by 18 months as a 'thank you' to venezuelan exiles who were among his most loyal supporters.

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — With the clock winding down on his term, U.S. President Donald Trump shielded tens of thousands of Venezuelan migrants from deportation Tuesday night, rewarding Venezuelan exiles who have been among his most loyal supporters and who fear losing the same privileged access to the

Recent

Clear all

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...


("Washington settlement") (fr...

("Smith-Washington settleme...

("settlement") (from:hollycap...

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)



Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829 ...



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

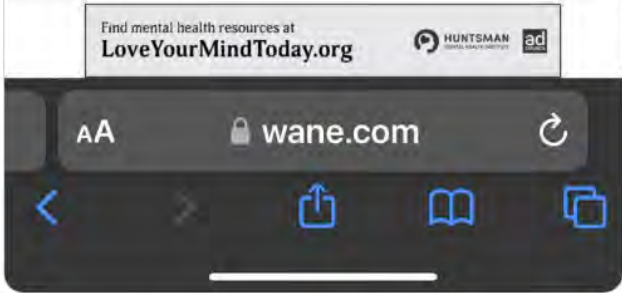
Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

shielded tens of thousands of Venezuelan migrants from deportation Tuesday night, rewarding Venezuelan exiles who have been among his most loyal supporters and who fear losing the same privileged access to the White House during the Biden administration.



fatblock @1fatblock · Feb 28, 2024

And trump set it all up

Members of the audience wave Venezuelan and American flags as President Donald Trump speaks to a Venezuelan American community in Miami, Fla., on Feb. 18, 2019. | Andrew Harnik/AP Photo

By SÁRRINA RODRÍGUEZ
01/19/2021 09:24 PM EST

President Donald Trump on Tuesday announced he will offer Venezuelan exiles protection from deportation, a move he has considered for years but refused to do until his last full day in office.

Trump is using the little-known Deferred Enforced Departure program, or DED, to offer temporary legal status to Venezuelans fleeing the humanitarian crisis brought on by Nicolás Maduro's regime. DED, similar to Temporary Protected Status or TPS, protects recipients from deportation and allows them to get work permits. However, it is granted directly by the president instead of the Department of Homeland Security.

Tami Drew @tamaloutoo_y · Feb 28, 2024

You can thank Trump, who in January 2021 signed a law granting Venezuelans automatic protection from deportation and work permits. That led to a sharp rise in Venezuelans coming to/ through the border. This guy came in in 2022.

Members of the audience wave Venezuelan and American flags as President Donald Trump speaks to a Venezuelan American community in Miami, Fla., on Feb. 18, 2019. | Andrew Harnik/AP Photo

By SÁRRINA RODRÍGUEZ
01/19/2021 09:24 PM EST

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Recent [Clear all](#)

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc... [×](#)

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci... [×](#)

("Washington settlement") (fr... [×](#)

("Smith-Washington settleme... [×](#)

("settlement") (from:hollycap... [×](#)

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino) [×](#)

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino) [×](#)

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

...

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

...

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Cookie Policy](#)

[Accessibility](#)

[Ads info](#)

[More...](#)

© 2025 X Corp.





- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post



- Amy2972** @Amyy2972 · Feb 28, 2024
JC...you & your dumb fking propaganda. A few days ago an 11 yr old was killed by a literal Nazi then he tied her body to a block & threw her in the river. Where is your outrage. I guess TX isn't sending their best. msn.com/en-us/news/crime/
- Barbara Maple** @BarbaraMaple5 · Feb 28, 2024
Yep. Shut it down and deport
- michael** @michaeljames86 · Feb 28, 2024
I'm sure the s.d. big govt agriculture industry will give them jobs.
- John Wisniewski** @WhiskeyMD247365 · Feb 28, 2024
No one sends Biden their best.
- Tim Sutton** @Haulingtmberr · Feb 28, 2024
Sidesaddle Kristi.
Repeating today's dish of bullshit still doesn't make it true. However, cheating on your family with a puke named Cory is pretty disgusting of you after your "Family Values" crap. How much is hubby being paid to act happy, and how much of that is tax dollars?
- CrimsonDynamo57 Brady before b...** @... · Feb 28, 2024
You know the jackhole Trumpy gave Venezuelans a green light to get into the US, right, Kristi?
Trump made this possible.
- Not the problem** @Thatkyleguy57 · Feb 28, 2024
President Trump was right again!!!
- DayneKnite** @DayneKnite · Feb 28, 2024
Thank you @realDonaldTrump for allowing Venezuelans into the states
- Blue Shirt Project** @blueshirtday1 · Feb 28, 2024
Trump invited those Venezuelans here and said they could stay, Kristi.

Try to pay attention. There are receipts.



David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Recent

Clear all

- ("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...
- ("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...
- ("Washington settlement") (fr...
- ("Smith-Washington settleme...
- ("settlement") (from:hollycap...
- ("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)
- ("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)



Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

Trending in United States
#earthquake
43.7K posts

Trending in United States
Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending
Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending
Ohio
48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More...
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post



- Amy2972** @Amyy2972 · Feb 28, 2024
JC...you & your dumb fking propaganda. A few days ago an 11 yr old was killed by a literal Nazi then he tied her body to a block & threw her in the river. Where is your outrage. I guess TX isn't sending their best. [msn.com/en-us/news/crime](https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/crime)

1

2

27

...
- Barbara Maple** @BarbaraMaple5 · Feb 28, 2024
Yep. Shut it down and deport

1

87

...
- michael** @michaeljames86 · Feb 28, 2024
I'm sure the s.d. big govt agriculture industry will give them jobs.

2

296

...
- John Wisniewski** @WhiskeyMD247365 · Feb 28, 2024
No one sends Biden their best.

4

3

316

...
- Tim Sutton** @Haulingtmberr · Feb 28, 2024
Sidesaddle Kristi.
Repeating today's dish of bullshit still doesn't make it true. However, cheating on your family with a puke named Cory is pretty disgusting of you after your "Family Values" crap. How much is hubby being paid to act happy, and how much of that is tax dollars?

1

20

...
- CrimsonDynamo57** Brady before b... @... · Feb 28, 2024
You know the jackhole Trumpy gave Venezuelans a green light to get into the US, right, Kristi?
Trump made this possible.

1

15

...
- Not the problem** @Thatkyleguy57 · Feb 28, 2024
President Trump was right again!!!

1

33

...
- DayneKnite** @DayneKnite · Feb 28, 2024
Thank you @realDonaldTrump for allowing Venezuelans into the states

1

45

...
- Blue Shirt Project** @blueshirtday1 · Feb 28, 2024
Trump invited those Venezuelans here and said they could stay, Kristi.

...

Try to pay attention. There are receipts.



Recent Clear all

- Q

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...

X
- Q

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...

X
- Q

("Washington settlement") (fr...

X
- Q

("Smith-Washington settleme...

X
- Q

("settlement") (from:hollycap...

X
- Q

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

X
- Q

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

X



Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA) LIVE

Trending in United States
#earthquake
43.7K posts

Trending in United States
Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending
Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending
Ohio
48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829 ...



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium


Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Try to pay attention. There are receipts.



Members of the audience wave Venezuelan and American flags as President Donald Trump speaks to a Venezuelan American community in Miami, Fla., on Feb. 18, 2019. | Andrew Harnik/AP Photo

By SABRINA RODRIGUEZ
01/19/2021 09:24 PM EST

President Donald Trump on Tuesday announced he will offer Venezuelan exiles protection from deportation, a move he has considered for years but refused to do until his last full day in office.

Trump is using the little-known Deferred Enforced Departure program, or DED, to offer temporary legal status to Venezuelans fleeing the humanitarian crisis brought on by Nicolás Maduro's regime. DED, similar to Temporary Protected Status or TPS, protects recipients from deportation and allows them to get work permits. However, it is granted directly by the president instead of the Department of Homeland Security.

2

3

58



PoliticOhMyGawd

@PoliticOhMyGawd · Feb 28, 2024

Can someone please show Corey's side piece how to do a Google search? Thanks.

Trump grants Venezuelans temporary legal status on his way out

The U.S. will defer for 18 months the removal of certain Venezuelan nationals.



Members of the audience wave Venezuelan and American flags as President Donald Trump speaks to a Venezuelan American community in Miami, Fla., on Feb. 18, 2019. | Andrew Harnik/AP Photo

By SABRINA RODRIGUEZ
01/19/2021 09:24 PM EST



Kristi Noem


@KristiNoem · Feb 28, 2024

Venezuela didn't send us their best. They emptied their prisons and sent criminals to America.

Deportations need to start on DAY ONE of @realDonaldTrump's term. x.com/FoxNews/status...

4

28



jkeys

@jakeslisch · Feb 28, 2024

There you go again - getting involved with something you know nothing about! FYI you are not one of our best either!



David Michaels

@DavidMi47644829

...

Recent

Clear all

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...)

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...)


("Washington settlement") (fr...

("Smith-Washington settleme...

("settlement") (from:hollycap...

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)



Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

...

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

...

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.



David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Trump Approves Deportation Protections for Venezuelans in U.S.

Trump Approves Deportation Protections for Venezuelans in U.S.

© 2025 X Corp.





- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More



SassyCassiefromTallahassee @SassyCassie... · Feb 28, 2024
GOP convicted pedophiles.
DIT is a convicted rapist.
You're a slut. Fuck off noem.



***Thašúnke Witkó** @OizumiSteve · Feb 28, 2024
🤔, ya, well, its your policy problem to fix. Unless of course Biden fixes it first and defuses the political landmine your boss left behind,

temporary legal status on his...

Jan 19, 2021 — President Donald Trump on Tuesday announced he will offer Venezuelan exiles protection from deportation, a move he has considered for ...



Trump's sanctions are still hurting everyday Venezuelan...

Jan 27, 2024 — Five years since Trump's oil sanctions announcement, Venezuela has finally managed to ...



Martyn Peel #FBPE @martynpeel · Feb 28, 2024
Blame this Russian asset:



David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Recent

Clear all

- Q ("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...
- Q ("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...
- Q ("Washington settlement") (fr...
- Q ("Smith-Washington settleme...
- Q ("settlement") (from:hollycap...
- Q ("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)
- Q ("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)



Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States
#earthquake
43.7K posts

Trending in United States
Genghis Khan
Entertainment · Trending
Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending
Ohio
48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.





- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post



Martyn Peel #FBPE @martynpeel · Feb 28, 2024
Blame this Russian asset:



From latimes.com



iknowtheassignment @STLCardKCChiefs · Feb 28, 2024
Deportations to where? Venezuela refused to allow these migrants back into the country? Where you going to go deport them to?



Jack Sullivan @JackSulliv74852 · Feb 28, 2024
Please be our VP



Keith Dutter @phil31213 · Feb 28, 2024
And here I thought they were all here by no fault of there own



RESIST @DennyWill14 · Feb 28, 2024
YOU'RE REALLY SPEWING THAT BULLSHIT ON OUR HARD EARNED TAX MONEY?
[@POTUS](#)



Aaron Pepelis @apepelis · Feb 28, 2024
From Corey Lewandowski's penis to your mouth.



Anthony @SomebodysHuman · Feb 29, 2024



David Michaels @DavidMi47644829



redstateboomer @redstateboomer · Feb 28, 2024
So, right wing "media" and right wing social media are back to Venezuela as a talking point again, eh?

Recent

Clear all

- Q ("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc... X
- Q ("Smith") (from:hollycappucci... X
- Q ("Washington settlement") (fr... X
- Q ("Smith-Washington settleme... X
- Q ("settlement") (from:hollycap... X
- Q ("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino) X
- Q ("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino) X



Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy

Accessibility Ads info More...

© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

redstateboomer @redstateboomer · Feb 28, 2024
So, right wing "media" and right wing social media are back to Venezuela as a talking point again, eh?
Don't forget "triggered,"
"snowflake,"
"socialists, communists (must be said with jowls shaking ala Nixon),"
"Freedom,"
"libtard,"
"globalist,"
"coastal elites,"
&...
[Show more](#)

2

35

Cindi Woohoo @CindiWoohoo · Feb 28, 2024
Republicans didn't send their best and brightest either. Resign. Cunt

9

181

caring 🇺🇸 🇧🇷 🇨🇦 @caringguy1957 · Feb 28, 2024

7

162

Scotty Paul @PolskaMolska · Feb 29, 2024
Trump is not going to happen. It's not right that the United States of America has, occupying the highest office, someone without ethics, morals, skills, experience, and who is seriously flawed from a psychological perspective.

1

19

Junky PostOffice @JunkyPostoffice · Feb 29, 2024
Wow Trump was right AGAIN!

1

Joseph L Trahan for Senate ... @Josep... · Feb 28, 2024

Subscribe

Politics

Venezuela's Violent Deaths Fall to 22-Year Low on Migration

- Rate is the lowest since 2001, violence observatory says
- Suicide rate rises amid continued humanitarian crisis

Recent

Clear all

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...

("Washington settlement") (fr...

("Smith-Washington settleme...

("settlement") (from:hollycap...

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels ...
@DavidMi47644829

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Venezuela didn't send us their best. They emptied their prisons and sent criminals to America. Deportations need to start on...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1762650522920652828
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:30:59 GMT

Page 14 of 33

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Post

Rate is the lowest since 2001, violence observatory says

Suicide rate rises amid continued humanitarian crisis

Ann Gables

@GablesGables5 · Feb 28, 2024

This beautiful girl had her whole life ahead of her. But Biden took it away. How many more innocent people have to die bc of his ignorance?

[x.com/TooStupidForPo...](#)

This Post is from a suspended account. [Learn more](#)

G Krill

@DreamingSeer · Feb 29, 2024

You killed your precious border deal. Then you whine about it. Oh, but you're from "the heartland". So pure and noble. Dedicated to "America first" except when you overlord the Orange Jesus dictates otherwise.

David William

@DavidCalhoon206 · Feb 28, 2024

Poor Kristi, ignoring the fact that TRUMP implemented the Venezuelan free border crossing policy right before he left office in one last "Screw America" act of revenge.

Jeff Lewis

@JeffL1020 · Feb 28, 2024

You were already fact checked and they are releasing their prisoners to come to the us

BetterThanMoonshine...

@LadyKn... · Feb 28, 2024

Trump blocks Venezuelans' deportation in last political gift

BY SCOTT SMITH AND JOSHUA GOODMAN

Updated 8:58 PM MST, January 19, 2021

Share

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — With the clock winding down on his term, U.S. President Donald Trump shielded tens of thousands of Venezuelan migrants from deportation Tuesday night, rewarding Venezuelan exiles who have been among his most loyal supporters and who fear losing the same privileged access to the White House during the Biden administration.

Recent

Clear all

Q

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...

X

Q

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...

X

Q

("Washington settlement") (fr...

X

Q

("Smith-Washington settleme...

X

Q

("settlement") (from:hollycap...

X

Q

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

X

Q

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

X

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

...

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

...

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More ...

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Venezuela didn't send us their best. They emptied their prisons and sent criminals to America. Deportations need to start on...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1762650522920652828
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:30:59 GMT

Page 15 of 33

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

migrants from deportation Tuesday night, rewarding Venezuelan exiles who have been among his most loyal supporters and who fear losing the same privileged access to the White House during the Biden administration.

Trump signed an executive order deferring for 18 months the removal of more than 145,000 Venezuelans who were at risk of being sent back to

Clayton McDonald

@mcmcpacfa

· Feb 28, 2024

Problem is Venezuela refuses to take them back. What to do? Send them to fight in Ukraine?

15

John Attinello

@johnattinello13

· Feb 28, 2024

Put all in planes and send them to the Ukraine

25

Sandra Callnan

@CallnanSandra

· Feb 28, 2024

PROVE IT.
LIAR.

8

HERE I AM

Keith Butler

@keithrbutler

· Feb 28, 2024

This is fear mongering of immigrants and is shameful!! Immigrant crime is consistently lower than the general population!! By picking a single example as if somehow typical is disgusting!! Shame on you, Kristi!

8

Karen Keeler

@KarenKe77226348

· Feb 28, 2024

Deport!

9

Dorothy Whitaker

@Dorothy18147587

· Feb 28, 2024

Yes and your ancestors were not the best either and yet here we are.

7

Always Question

@Horsesandstocks

· Feb 28, 2024

#MarielBoatlift2

28

JC™

@JSCINNY

· Feb 28, 2024

That's a lie.

8

Recent

Clear all

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...

("Washington settlement") (fr...

("Smith-Washington settleme...

("settlement") (from:hollycap...

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

WHO WILL WIN?

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.

Grok

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Venezuela didn't send us their best. They emptied their prisons and sent criminals to America. Deportations need to start on...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1762650522920652828
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:30:59 GMT
Page 16 of 33



- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

- JC™** @JSCINNY · Feb 28, 2024
That's a lie.
8
- Hashem Echad** @markeemark920 · Feb 28, 2024
They pulled a Scarface
46
- Jewish Space Laser Technician** @BigTParker · Feb 28, 2024
Trump kept them here.
Biden resumed deporting them.

Trump Approves Deportation Protections for Venezuelans in U.S. Illegally
From wsj.com
23
- DayneKnite** @DayneKnite · Feb 28, 2024
Thank you DJT
38
- Trump was saved by GOD! #FJB ...** @Fat... · Feb 28, 2024
Unfortunately, Venezuela has already stated they will refuse to accept deportees... we need to send these criminal invaders to Gitmo
18
- Tammy Swanson** @TammySw96725525 · Feb 28, 2024
We should fact check your remarks every time you post!
11
- Sam Ballard** @ballard12_sam · Feb 28, 2024
Another reason for that wall on the Nebraska border. Make Venezuela pay for it.
12
- Vote, Fuckers.** @AnalyzeThis · Feb 28, 2024
Who were you expecting, Maduro?
15
- @CarlosTryidero** @CarlosTryidero · Feb 28, 2024
SAY THE CHEATERMOTHER AND WIFE LOOK AT THE MIRROR CHEATER
7
- Bobbie J** @BobbieJ1126 · Feb 28, 2024
How will we ever find them all?
37
- David Michaels** @DavidMi47644829 ...
- Ed King** @TNCat53 · Feb 28, 2024
GOP DEFINITELY DIDN'T send their best. It's definitely time to send

Recent

Clear all

- Q ("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc... x
- Q ("Smith") (from:hollycappucci... x
- Q ("Washington settlement") (fr... x
- Q ("Smith-Washington settleme... x
- Q ("settlement") (from:hollycap... x
- Q ("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino) x
- Q ("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino) x



Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy

Accessibility Ads info More...

© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

2

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

How will we ever find them all?

37

Ed King @TNCat53 · Feb 28, 2024

GOP DEFINITELY DIDN'T send their best. It's definitely time to send them home.

15

Margaret Barton (Susie) @susie_margaret · Feb 28, 2024

Another great strong dedicated and beautiful Governor for the people and the country🇺🇸

19

Jon Meaders @MeadersJon · Feb 28, 2024

And yet YOUR mango messiah kisses the a\$\$ of the Venezuelan leader.

6

denise rodriguez @jezabel52 · Feb 28, 2024

You still sleeping with Flynn? Your husband ok with that

5

TaskMaster @littleimpressio · Feb 28, 2024

Scotland didn't send their best either hon

Carl Craig @RedWaveSurfer99 · Feb 28, 2024

Without a doubt. Looking forward to it.

60

Teddy Roosevelt's Musta... @mustache_t... · Feb 28, 2024

I loved watching a member of The Lincoln Project say last night on MSNBC that you have absolutely no chance of being the Orange Tumor's VP because of a relationship with a member of his entourage.

He he..ha ha...hello Corey!

17

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829 · Feb 28, 2024

Mitch Zawacki @MitchZawacki · Feb 28, 2024

Recent

Clear all

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...

("Washington settlement") (fr...

("Smith-Washington settleme...

("settlement") (from:hollycap...

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Post

entourage.

He he...ha ha...hello Corey!

17

Mitch Zawaski

@MitchZawaski · Feb 28, 2024

By SABRINA RODRIGUEZ

01/19/2021 09:26 PM EST

President Donald Trump on Tuesday announced he will offer Venezuelan exiles protection from deportation, a move he has considered for years but refused to do until his last full day in office.

Trump is using the little-known Deferred Enforced Departure program, or DED, to offer temporary legal status to Venezuelans fleeing the humanitarian crisis brought on by Nicolás Maduro's regime. DED, similar to Temporary Protected Status or TPS, protects recipients from deportation and allows them to get work permits. However, it is granted directly by the president instead of the Department of Homeland Security.

10

Guantanamo is open

@Gracesodapop · Feb 28, 2024

Joe Biden has blood on his hands!!!

44

Nunya

@nano_rjdmán · Feb 28, 2024

Joe Biden opened up the border and allowed a massive influx of criminal insane illegal aliens to permeate our neighborhoods.

He more than enabled it, he planned, funded, organized and managed the invasion.

Americans and our families are no longer safe.

#BidensBoys

12

Jordan Bates

@JordanBate58831 · Feb 28, 2024

Under Trump? His policies! @Eminem

8

Michele

@ScreamingMemeMe · Feb 28, 2024

Kristi Noem needs to mind her own state! South Dakota it's time to vote this media whore out!

7

David Michaels

@DavidMi47644829

TheBirdisTheWord

@WordBirdis · Feb 28, 2024

SD farms and ranches ARE FULL OF ILLEGAL WORKERS!!!!

Recent

Clear all

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...

("Washington settlement") (fr...

("Smith-Washington settleme...

("settlement") (from:hollycap...

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

WHO WILL WIN?

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.

Grok

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Venezuela didn't send us their best. They emptied their prisons and sent criminals to America. Deportations need to start on...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1762650522920652828
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:30:59 GMT

Page 19 of 33

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post



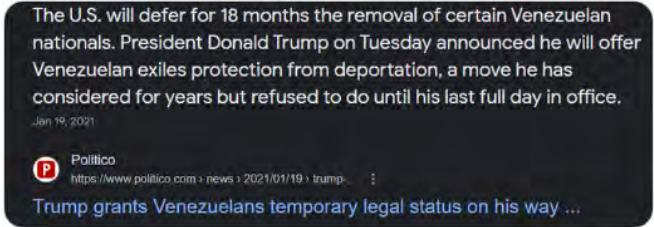
Christina F @Christi62372927 · Feb 28, 2024
Correct me if I am wrong, but didn't Trump approve temporary legal status for those who fled Venezuela and entered our country illegally on the last day he was in office in 2021? Wouldn't that imply that Trump invited in the man who then committed murder in GA?

CBunny @EH_CBunny · Feb 28, 2024
#RACIST

Michele F @michele86093736 · Feb 28, 2024



JadedB @JadedB · Feb 28, 2024
Try again, loser. **#WompWomp**



SDH @SDWoman62 · Feb 28, 2024
Meanwhile in South Dakota, a Republican candidate can stay get (allegedly) SD Republican party to provide bail money AND get vote, all while being charged and convicted with the rape of his adopted

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Recent Clear all

Q

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc... ×

Q

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci... ×

Q

("Washington settlement") (fr... ×

Q

("Smith-Washington settleme... ×

Q

("settlement") (from:hollycap... ×

Q

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino) ×

Q

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino) ×

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

...

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

...

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

[Show more](#)

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.





- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

- people here then shut the fuck up.
- Eric** @edresq92 · Feb 28, 2024
Which explains why Trump created 11th hour amnesty for Venezuelans in January 2021?
- WhoAreWe** @tropicalsweel · Feb 28, 2024
- REPUBLICANS PISS, MOAN, AND CRY ABOUT THE BORDER. YET, REFUSE TO WORK ON SOLUTIONS BECAUSE DJT TOLD THEM NOT TO.
- WHEN YOU STEAL "BUILD THE WALL" DONATIONS FROM YOUR OWN COUNTRY, THEN STFU ABOUT IT ASSHOLES. REPUBLICAN BORDER CRISIS
- AND THE CULT LEADER ARDONS YOU FOR DOING IT
- Rem 2000 & 2016** @Rem2000 · Feb 28, 2024
Is Corey Lewandowski the best you can do, Sweetie? Many Venezuelans I've spoken to are seeking better lives. Are you looking for a more risqué relationship, Kristi?
- nypost.com
Trump donor files police report accusing Core...
Trashelle Odom, a prominent Trump campaign donor, said that Lewandowski made several ...
- TJ_TX_LA** @747_TJ · Feb 28, 2024
Says the political hack that has done nothing to help the US government stop this!
- ThatOneGuy** @DOGG0525 · Feb 28, 2024
Neither did Colorado.
- Wes Rupert** @rupert_wes · Feb 28, 2024
Magats ban more people than they embrace. Wonder why they lost in 2020, 2022?
- Victor Rodriguez** @VictorR48801957 · Feb 28, 2024
Democrats didn't learn with ms13. So I guess their mentally challenged. Why are they in power?? Oh yeah, brainwashed useful idiots.
- Michael Auerbach** @auerbachaz · Feb 28, 2024
@KristiNoem sure sounded like a VP nominee speech. Go Kristi



David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Recent

Clear all

- ("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc... x
- ("Smith") (from:hollycappucci... x
- ("Washington settlement") (fr... x
- ("Smith-Washington settleme... x
- ("settlement") (from:hollycap... x
- ("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino x
- ("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino x



Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States
#earthquake
43.7K posts

Trending in United States
Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending
Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending
Ohio
48.9K posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Michael Auerbach

@auerbachaz · Feb 28, 2024

@KristiNoem

sure sounded like a VP nominee speech.

Go Kristi

7

Trick Or Tweet

@wet_mogwai · Mar 1, 2024

I Smoked The Kansas Cit...

@BlackKni... · Feb 25, 2024

That immigrant was Venezuelan and guess how he got here

[x.com/My_comments_R/...](https://x.com/My_comments_R/)

Trump grants Venezuelans temporary legal status on his way out

The U.S. will defer for 18 months the removal of certain Venezuelan nationals.

Members of the audience wave Venezuelan and American flags as President Donald Trump speaks to a Venezuelan American community in Miami, Fla., on Feb. 18, 2019. | Andrew Harnik/AP Photo

By SABRINA RODRIGUEZ
01/19/2021 09:24 PM EST

7

OldLadyInAZ

@HappyAZLady · Feb 29, 2024

Like these Venezuelans that your orange stinky criminal kept from being deported?

Recent

Clear all

Q

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...

X

Q

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...

X

Q

("Washington settlement") (fr...

X

Q

("Smith-Washington settleme...

X

Q

("settlement") (from:hollycap...

X

Q

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

X

Q

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

X

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

...

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

...

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

privileged access to the White House during the Biden administration.

Trump signed an executive order deferring for 18 months the removal of more than 145,000 Venezuelans who were at risk of being sent back to their crisis-wracked homeland. He cited the “deteriorative condition” within Venezuela that constitutes a national security threat as the basis for his decision.

“America remains a beacon of hope and freedom for manv. and now eligible

Y-Man @ty_mandividend · Feb 28, 2024

BY SADRINA RODRIGUEZ
01/19/2021 09:24 PM EST

President Donald Trump on Tuesday announced he will offer Venezuelan exiles protection from deportation, a move he has considered for years but refused to do until his last full day in office.

Trump is using the little-known Deferred Enforced Departure program, or DED, to offer temporary legal status to Venezuelans fleeing the humanitarian crisis brought on by Nicolás Maduro's regime. DED, similar to Temporary Protected Status or TPS, protects recipients from deportation and allows them to get work permits. However, it is granted directly by the president instead of the Department of Homeland Security.

7

Nanette Price @nanetteprice71 · Feb 28, 2024

Jan 19, 2021 · President Donald Trump has shielded tens of thousands of Venezuelan migrants from deportation from the U.S. The order signed Tuesday night was a final reward for Venezuelan exiles.

9

Bob Schwab @BobSchwab7 · Feb 28, 2024

So original. Fear and hatred is all you have to sell. Did Corey give you this idea?



David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Recent [Clear all](#)

Q

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc... [×](#)

Q

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci... [×](#)

Q

("Washington settlement") (fr... [×](#)

Q

("Smith-Washington settleme... [×](#)

Q

("settlement") (from:hollycap... [×](#)

Q

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino) [×](#)

Q

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino) [×](#)

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

...

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

...

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

[Show more](#)

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Ken Atwood @cabmanbxr · Feb 28, 2024

You've kissed the Orange Moron's diapered ass for ages. You encourage loser racists and white nationalists to come here. Traitor Tot, you're as someone else said, a true show pony. Trash personified. Hungry schoolkids? You don't care. Can't wait until you're GONE.

8

Christopher Himsl @christo28213184 · Feb 29, 2024

Here are your criminals.
What happened to the America of
"Give me your tired, your poor,
your huddle masses yearning to breathe free . . ."

How & when did your family get here?

10

Scott Zoller @ScottZoller · Feb 28, 2024

Your undying devotion to your cult leader Daffy Donnie will be your downfall.

6

wi_dust_nd @wi_dust_nd · Feb 28, 2024

Jo @JoJoFromJerz · Feb 27, 2024

Hey @GOP — YOU killed the bipartisan border bill YOU asked for because Trump told YOU to.
Can't pin this shit on Biden.

Recent Clear all

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...

("Washington settlement") (fr...

("Smith-Washington settleme...

("settlement") (from:hollycap...

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

...

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

...

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.





- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

Jo @JoJoFromJerz · Feb 27, 2024
 Hey @GOP — YOU killed the bipartisan border bill YOU asked for because Trump told YOU to.
 Can't pin this shit on Biden.
 YOU the border now.



Follow

Americans now view the border crisis as the most important problem facing the country.

Biden created the crisis through his executive actions, and he refuses to end it by reversing them.



From news.gallup.com

5

YachatsSteve @stevepaul59 · Feb 28, 2024
 Gee willikers Hypocrisy Hussy! What makes you think that your dude is worthy of anything but scorn. You are the party of no shame.



39

YachatsSteve @stevepaul59 · Feb 28, 2024
x.com/badbradrsr/status/1762650522920652828

38

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Recent

Clear all

- Q ("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc... ✕
- Q ("Smith") (from:hollycappucci... ✕
- Q ("Washington settlement") (fr... ✕
- Q ("Smith-Washington settleme... ✕
- Q ("settlement") (from:hollycap... ✕
- Q ("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino) ✕
- Q ("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino) ✕



Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
 LIVE

Trending in United States
#earthquake
 43.7K posts

Trending in United States
Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending
Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending
Ohio
 48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
 Accessibility Ads info More...
 © 2025 X Corp.



Grok

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

fix favored by the Border Patrol. Demagog away, Kristi. Can't fund Ukraine, the star witness in the Hunter Biden probe was a Russian asset. That's the truth. Y'all are really stupid or you're complicit, or both.

Bill Watkins @TravelingPoet1 · Feb 28, 2024

Scapegoating migrants while our own citizens remain gun sick.

Number of mass shootings in the United States between 1982 and December 2023, by shooter's race or ethnicity

White	80
Black	26
Latino	12
Asian	10
Other	5
Native American	3

Wayne Rice @wrice99 · Feb 28, 2024

We have to thank Donnie for allowing Putin to interfere in Venezuela's affairs which caused the exodus into the US. We need to understand why people flee their countries.

Wayne Rice @wrice99 · Feb 28, 2024

Trump grants Venezuelans temporary legal status on his way out

From politico.com

VHS - Brim\$ton3 @Brimstone_NYC · Feb 28, 2024

Why wait? Start now!

White Mamba @vipersnke · Feb 28, 2024

Warned years ago it was coming. Flipping hemispheres. #GlobalEquity

Recent

Clear all

Q ("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...

Q ("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...

Q ("Washington settlement") (fr...

Q ("Smith-Washington settleme...

Q ("settlement") (from:hollycap...

Q ("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

Q ("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

WHO WILL WIN?

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

...

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

...

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Venezuela didn't send us their best. They emptied their prisons and sent criminals to America. Deportations need to start on...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1762650522920652828
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:30:59 GMT

Page 30 of 33

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

- White Mamba

@vipersnke · Feb 28, 2024

Warned years ago it was coming.
Flipping hemispheres. [#GlobalEquity](#)

20
- whyohwhy

@ohwhyohwhy22 · Feb 28, 2024

You lie worse than you cheat on your hubby

10
- Tom Donald

@TomDona47629830 · Feb 28, 2024

Must elevate the consequences for criminal behavior.

3
- David Govostes

@DaveWoburn · Feb 28, 2024

China loves liberal Democrats

11
- Porky the Pig

@porky626 · Feb 28, 2024

New York Post

@nypost

SD Gov. Kristi Noem having affair with Trump aide Corey Lewandowski, sources say: 'He's 100% banging her' [trib.al/YwSTHQI](#)

21

Sam Lopez

@miraflor1962 · Feb 28, 2024

You fit right in! The lowest of the low.

David Michaels

@DavidMi47644829

Recent

Clear all

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...

("Washington settlement") (fr...

("Smith-Washington settleme...

("settlement") (from:hollycap...

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

YOU MEAN THE WICKED WITCH OF THE RIGHT

2

Peace thru Pets 🇺🇦🇵🇸 @DroppyEars · Feb 28, 2024

Republicans are better at whining than actually solving problems.

Waiting for Republicans to



stop whining about the border & pass a Border Security Bill

5

MichiganRocks @michigan4season · Feb 28, 2024

Just like Trump said.

6

Peeoveroh @theravenking00 · Feb 29, 2024

And now they don't want them deported back. Well I say too bad. Give them a helicopter ride 🤪

Venezuela Stops the US From Deporting Violent Criminals



CROSSROADS LIVE

9

Joseph @jagdb5 · Feb 28, 2024

His prison term?

Joe could arrange that



Recent

Clear all

("TaxAct") (from:hollycappuc...)

("Smith") (from:hollycappucci...)

("Washington settlement") (fr...

("Smith-Washington settleme...

("settlement") (from:hollycap...

("kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

("Kroll") (from:hollycappuccino)

Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

WHO WILL WIN?

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.7K posts

Trending in United States

Genghis Khan

Entertainment · Trending

Eddie Murphy

Politics · Trending

Ohio

48.9K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Venezuela didn't send us their best. They emptied their prisons and sent criminals to America. Deportations need to start on...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1762650522920652828
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:30:59 GMT

Page 32 of 33

Exhibit 26

- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post



Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem



Countries like Venezuela are emptying their prisons, their mental institutions, and sending them to America.

The White House is facilitating this invasion. They're doing it on purpose. Joe Biden could stop it — but he hasn't.



11:01 PM · Mar 6, 2024 · 265.2K Views

998

3K

9.7K

83



Post your reply

Reply



Starfish @StarfishLBK · Mar 6, 2024

Please sue them. I'm hoping my @GovRonDeSantis governor will sue as well. Catholic Charities, Jewish Federation, Lutheran Social services must answer for assisting in mass trafficking of children.

1



4

201



megourd1967 @megourd1967 · Mar 6, 2024

South Dakota, you have a great governor!

20



59

2.2K



Gerardo de la Fuente @GdelaFuenteMTY · Mar 6, 2024

Same that Cuba un Mariel.

1



1

218



LAURENCE2A @a_LAURENCE2A · Mar 6, 2024

Serious Hottie.

3



2

256



Svetti Bolz @NOApologiesMAGA · Mar 6, 2024

The Mariel Boatlift ended Jimmy Carter's career. What's happening now is one hundred times worse.

1



3

151



Tatted Merica @nottodaylibs · Mar 6, 2024

You're an amazing Governor ma'am, and will be an amazing VP.

7



7

866



Simon Wu @sisisimon · Mar 6, 2024

Yup! So we have to deal with Venezuela's problems. I pray things will get better!

3



8

1.1K



David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829



Relevant people



Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening



4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.



- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

- Simon Wu** @sisisimon · Mar 6, 2024
Yup! So we have to deal with Venezuela's problems. I pray things will get better!
3 8 1.1K
- Thomas Matthew** @twittah98058656 · Mar 6, 2024
Treason? Yup!
1 85
- 52.8 million** @happygilmo17232 · Mar 6, 2024
God you're hawt!!!
2 1 179
- So Tired** @SoTiredOfficial · Mar 6, 2024
1 829
- Heartgirl0316** @Heartgirl0316 · Mar 6, 2024
Read and weep you distrusting gaslighter ! America is not stupid !

House Judiciary Dems @HouseJudiciary · Mar 6, 2024
.@RepSwalwell to House GOP: You get a border bill from the second most conservative member of the Senate. You oppose it because Trump opposes it. He opposes it because he wants to be president because he has 91 felony counts that he's facing. And those go away if he's president.



- 1 1 40
- ShanghaiOG** @Shinpath · Mar 6, 2024
Good. Freedom-lovers coming!
99
- mj** @jensen_49 · Mar 6, 2024
Your gop candidate loves the Venezuelan president. You are such an idiot
21
- YachatsSteve** @stevepaul59 · Mar 6, 2024
That immigrant might have more skills than this family man. (Think Elon) You have family members on the taxpayer backs and one that probably lobbies with pharmaceutical (thus your cannabis shenanigans). Hypocrisy Hussy is really earning that moniker recently.

In 2019, Jayson Boebert had no income. In 2020, after Lauren was elected, he was hired by Terra Energy Partners and paid an annual fee of \$460,000. Terra has a heavy



David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people



Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening



4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States
#earthquake
43.8K posts

Trending in United States
Isagi
7,340 posts

Trending in United States
Malibu
8,221 posts

Politics · Trending
Ohio
49K posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

In 2019, Jayson Boebert had no income. In 2020, after Lauren was elected, he was hired by Terra Energy Partners and paid an annual fee of \$460,000. Terra has a heavy presence in Lauren Boebert's district.

When can we expect a congressional investigation into this matter?

- cindylouW.H.O.** @gldimhere · Mar 6, 2024

WTF is living in your hair?

1

4

61
- Steve** @StopWokeInsane · Mar 6, 2024

Decent citizens need a leader with the cash & power to match Soros. We don't need a politician! We need a General for a CW.

52
- Marc** @kmbdsusa · Mar 6, 2024

Freedumb spewing her bullshit.

1

16
- Adalberto Perez** @Adalber68692499 · Mar 6, 2024

And of course they're heading straight to South Dakota among a population that only speaks English, unable to hide in a sea of pale faces.

51
- nd beef** @beef_nd · Mar 6, 2024

U could kick summit the fuck outta SD but u slut would rather take bribes..hows Corey??

20
- A Person Who Thinks For The...** @dwi... · Mar 7, 2024

This is "The Cloward-Piven Strategy". It is a plan they have been working on for quite some time. We are seeing an acceleration because I think they fear we may wake up and stop it before they pull it off. Oh and if you look that up... don't bother with the wiki post for it.

[Show more](#)

3

11

931
- Marcus Jones** @MarcusJ62576875 · Mar 6, 2024

Sad part is it's all because of GREED

1

102
- Utah Moderate** 🇨🇦 🇺🇸 @LJRK0909 · Mar 7, 2024

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829 ...

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

- 4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)** LIVE
- Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts
- Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts
- Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts
- Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Marcus Jones @MarcusJ62576875 · Mar 6, 2024
Sad part is it's all because of GREED

1

102

Utah Moderate 🇨🇦 🇪🇺 @LJRK0909 · Mar 7, 2024
First, none of this is true. Second, you fail to mention your orange idol gave Venezuelans a pass on coming here in order to escape the mess in their country.

7

David Valade(he/his/him-il/le/lui)... @Dav... · Mar 7, 2024
Liar. #factsmatter Try one or two sometime.

8

Peace&Good 🌻 @jmduhnke · Mar 7, 2024
Nope, they're NOT! Prove it!

11

DaveStirek @57555ds · Mar 7, 2024
Show some proof!!! Or STFU with trumps lies!!!

2

Alison Kostas @AlisonKostas · Mar 7, 2024
You're a total POS to spew this nonsense as you KNOW its a lie.

3

Glenn McSparin @glennm52 · Mar 7, 2024
Stop posting ur fucking lies and with no proof!! Psycho bitch!

3

Lieutenant Dan 🌍 @doody445 · Mar 7, 2024
This is what happens when you elect a bimbo to be your governor.

8

Castiel Crowley 🤖 🇺🇸 🇪🇺 @reinasdada · Mar 7, 2024
You're such a reprehensible, sorry excuse of a human being. Calling you human is a real stretch. GFY

8

Tari @Beantari · Mar 8, 2024
What a load of nonsense. Begone!

6

Cee @DPolitics1 · Mar 7, 2024
Yup Biden wants ex cons and mental patients from other countries here bc that helps him politically.....its stupid when u say it out loud lol.
GOP motto....be afraid...be very afraid.

1

2

armand @ArmamdT · Mar 7, 2024
When they get here, we will bus them right up to you in South Dakota!
But you're another idiot that can't think of shit on your own! Like a good little girl, you repeat what trump says.
But just remember that he only like young girls like Ivanka! He grabbed her ass the other day!

4

Yuri @YuriHuff82 · Mar 7, 2024
I'm Venezuelan, you are 100% right. The independent journalist in South America have been reporting this for the last 6 month to a

Relevant people

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

WHO WILL WIN?

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service · Privacy Policy · Cookie Policy

Accessibility · Ads info · More...

© 2025 X Corp.

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Countries like Venezuela are emptying their prisons, their mental institutions, and sending them to America. The White Hous...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1765513039795601862
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:33:56 GMT

Page 4 of 29



- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

- Yuri** @YuriHuff82 · Mar 7, 2024
I'm Venezuelan, you are 100% right. The independent journalist in South America have been reporting this for the last 6 month to a year.
- paul senez** @paul_senez · Mar 8, 2024
And you have reams of evidence that you are prepared to share to substantiate your claims?
- Grizliz** @Grizliz1 · Mar 7, 2024
@CommunityNotes
- Blue Bird** @BlueBir80680931 · Mar 7, 2024
True
- JB** @JBeverly28 · Mar 7, 2024
Worked when Castro did it
- Rev Miguel A Rivera** @MiguelReverend · Mar 7, 2024
False misleading wrong information
- Susanne Weber** @Susanne44580497 · Mar 7, 2024
Of course that's not true, but the right has to amp up fake fear so you think they're here to protect you. Ridiculous! They're here to CONTROL YOU!



- PopcornTV** @PopcornTV999 · Mar 6, 2024
100%

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening



- Trending in United States
#earthquake
43.8K posts
- Trending in United States
Isagi
7,340 posts
- Trending in United States
Malibu
8,221 posts
- Politics · Trending
Ohio
49K posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.





- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

- Yuri** @YuriHuff82 · Mar 7, 2024
I'm Venezuelan, you are 100% right. The independent journalist in South America have been reporting this for the last 6 month to a year.
- paul senez** @paul_senez · Mar 8, 2024
And you have reams of evidence that you are prepared to share to substantiate your claims?
- Grizliz** @Grizliz1 · Mar 7, 2024
@CommunityNotes
- Blue Bird** @BlueBir80680931 · Mar 7, 2024
True
- JB** @JBeverly28 · Mar 7, 2024
Worked when Castro did it
- Rev Miguel A Rivera** @MiguelReverend · Mar 7, 2024
False misleading wrong information
- Susanne Weber** @Susanne44580497 · Mar 7, 2024
Of course that's not true, but the right has to amp up fake fear so you think they're here to protect you. Ridiculous! They're here to CONTROL YOU!



- PopcornTV** @PopcornTV999 · Mar 6, 2024
100%

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

- Trending in United States
#earthquake
43.8K posts
- Trending in United States
Isagi
7,340 posts
- Trending in United States
Malibu
8,221 posts
- Politics · Trending
Ohio
49K posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

SDH @SDWoman62 · Mar 6, 2024
@GovKristiNoem starring in The Real Housewives of MAGA....

2

94

4

119

YachatsSteve @stevepaul59 · Mar 6, 2024
Cruelty has no borders. You MFs are everywhere. Shucks.

Damaan, AKA "Philly's Fine..." @Damaan4... · Mar 6, 2024
Who agrees cruelty has no borders? 🙌🙌🙌

1

50

1

50

Democrat Rick @DemocratRick12 · Mar 6, 2024
Citation on this claim?

12

45

1.6K

Suk Medic @SukMedic2 · Mar 7, 2024
Didn't Castro do this in the 1980s? Yeah. And taxpayers foot the bill to house them for decades. History repeats it's self because dumbasses didnt learn the first time.

2

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829 ...

Joy TR @jayhawkjoy · Mar 7, 2024

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Follow

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA) LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

[Show more](#)

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy Accessibility Ads info More ...

© 2025 X Corp.

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Countries like Venezuela are emptying their prisons, their mental institutions, and sending them to America. The White Hous...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1765513039795601862
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:33:56 GMT

Page 7 of 29



- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

History repeats it's self because dumbasses didnt learn the first time.

- Joy TR** @jayhawkjoy · Mar 7, 2024
You definitely know how to lie like your cult leader
- Kristi Janeen** @KristiJaneen · Mar 7, 2024
Just stop. That is not true. Stop the fear porn.
- Ryan Schoen** @ryguy1o1 · Mar 7, 2024
We have enough mentally ill people here already. We don't need anymore democrats
- Howard Bailey** @HowardB47707870 · Mar 7, 2024
That's the truth
- AsKo2** @Beachnut222 · Mar 7, 2024
No they're actually not! Lying sack o shit! Hey, where's Corey?
- Dr. Vladimir Joukov** @vladijoukov · Mar 7, 2024
Because the American people's representatives in the government should be loyal to America— and not to any foreign country— and faithful to God and Christianity. This cannot be said about many ppl in our government, including the person in charge for the security of our borders.
- Floyd Dabarber** @ZacharySmithdoc · Mar 7, 2024
Biden needs to be impeached
- JM For Science Reason Tr...** @Cavebear20... · Mar 7, 2024
Traitor Trash.
- G.C. Andrade** @gary_a75 · Mar 7, 2024
The 2024 election won't even take place..
- James Pennington** @pennington_jr · Mar 7, 2024
Vote @realDonaldTrump

James Pennington @pennington_jr · Feb 23, 2024
It's time to rock the vote! Trump 2024 keep America great! song titled

"Donald J Trump"



Relevant people



Kristi Noem @KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening



4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States
#earthquake
43.8K posts

Trending in United States
Isagi
7,340 posts

Trending in United States
Malibu
8,221 posts

Politics · Trending
Ohio
49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service · Privacy Policy · Cookie Policy
Accessibility · Ads info · More ...
© 2025 X Corp.



David Michaels @DavidMi47644829



Home

Explore

2

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post



- Don the border king** @johnny45436859 · Mar 7, 2024
She's hot and stupid.

3

1

5

610
- X Worlboss 14** @WorlbossBarnes · Mar 7, 2024
😂😂😂 so beautiful 😂

3
- Jasper Wyoming** @JasperWyoming01 · Mar 7, 2024
Republicans could defund it but they don't.

19
- Mike** @NapalmAirstrike · Mar 8, 2024
Somebody has to Stop that Rat 🐭 Biden!

6
- Publius** @captlibertas · Mar 6, 2024
#TrumpNoem2024



- drew allen** @drewholm3 · Mar 6, 2024
Fuck - let's empty our prisons and fly our scum bags there - along with bringing theirs back. Clean house !

106
- Joseph** @Un_Spin_City · Mar 7, 2024
It's a plan to eventually make the all citizens and voters for the Democrats.

58
- Steve Ferguson** @Isferguson · Mar 7, 2024
This invasion is by design

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829 ...

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post



- 3

1

5

610
- Don the border king** @johnny45436859 · Mar 7, 2024
She's hot and stupid.

8
- X Worlboss 14** @WorlbossBarnes · Mar 7, 2024
😍😍😍 so beautiful 😍

3
- Jasper Wyoming** @JasperWyoming01 · Mar 7, 2024
Republicans could defund it but they don't.

19
- Mike** @NapalmAirstrike · Mar 8, 2024
Somebody has to Stop that Rat 🐭 Biden!

6
- Publius** @captlibertas · Mar 6, 2024
#TrumpNoem2024



- 17
- drew allen** @drewholm3 · Mar 6, 2024
Fuck - let's empty our prisons and fly our scum bags there - along with bringing theirs back. Clean house !

106
- Joseph** @Un_Spin_City · Mar 7, 2024
It's a plan to eventually make the all citizens and voters for the Democrats.

58
- Steve Ferguson** @Isferguson · Mar 7, 2024
This invasion is by design

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829 ...

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.



- X
 - Home
 - Explore
 - Notifications
 - Messages
 - Grok
 - Lists
 - Bookmarks
 - Jobs
 - Communities
 - Premium
 - Verified Orgs
 - Profile
 - More
- Post

- At this point it is now Trump's fault.
- 1 2 53
- E-Diplomacy+government** | ... @ShirlA... · Mar 7, 2024 x1 ...
! Blatant Lies! FactsAndTruthWins:
The #Venezuelan refugee crisis, the largest recorded refugee crisis in the Americas, refers to the emigration of millions of Venezuelans from their native country during the presidencies of Hugo Chávez and Nicolás Maduro because of the
[Show more](#)
- 2 6 22 1K
- Mr. C** @knowledgewins8 · Mar 7, 2024 x1 ...
Canada is allowing Chinese Military to train on our Northern borders!
- 1
- Lars@C-bus** @LarryHillyer3 · Mar 7, 2024 x1 ...



- 4 19
- SassyCassiefromTallahas...** @SassyCassief... · Mar 7, 2024 x1 ...
Sloppy seconds Noem aka Cory's cum Dumpster is leaking in the rear..



David Michaels ...
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem [@KristiNoem](#) [Follow](#)

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA) [LIVE](#)

Trending in United States ...
#earthquake
43.8K posts

Trending in United States ...
Isagi
7,340 posts

Trending in United States ...
Malibu
8,221 posts

Politics · Trending ...
Ohio
49K posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.



X

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

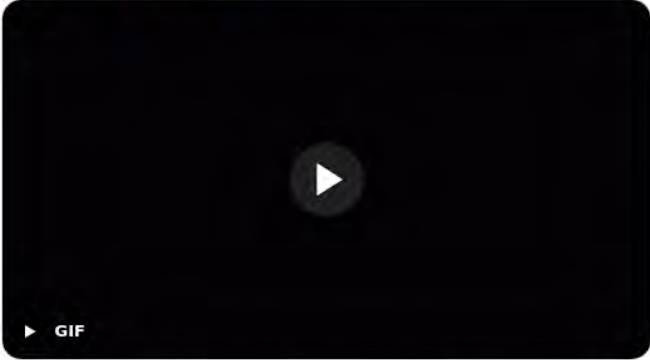
Post



Jack aguilera @Jackaguilera18 · Mar 7, 2024
Shut your mouth .

Susan Perino @susan_perino · Mar 7, 2024
The House could stop it but they got their marching orders from Trump to not pass the Bill because he admittedly wants to use it as a political talking point because he has nothing else!

MSFighter @BrujaAnon · Mar 7, 2024



Brian York @BrianYork827 · Mar 7, 2024
That is exactly what happened years ago when Cuba emptied all of its prisons too and sent them to Miami.

BK @KB41151 · Mar 7, 2024
Dressed up for another nite working the Motel 6 . 🤡🤡🤡

I really hope I'm wrong @bigalmedina · Mar 7, 2024



Heyward Wall @heywardwall · Mar 7, 2024



David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.



X

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

JOEEFX @JOEANDREAS3000 · Mar 7, 2024

Send the SD they'll fit right in. Crooked from the top down.

4

Monica @Monica60517016 · Mar 7, 2024

Who is really mentally ill here?

6

Samuel Baker @samuel_bak31863 · Mar 7, 2024

document your claims b*tch!!!!

5

DrGigiB @DrGingembre · Mar 7, 2024

Any evidence of that?

15


Ilanna Phillips @IlannaPhillips · Mar 7, 2024

Gawd..this idiot

1

Brian Hirsh (Thor) @BrianHirsh1 · Mar 7, 2024

KRISTI NOEM



FOR VICE PRESIDENT 2024

7

3

12

534

Joel Keith @MayNotBeJoking · Mar 7, 2024

CALLING ALL CARS...CALLING ALL CARS...CAR 54 WHERE ARE YOU?

seriously though, it is going to take all of us to call out this bullshit every damn time we see it.

Between now and Nov5. We need to clear the smoke screen.

(I'm too young to have actually seen Car54, just saying)

1

13

Tod @TodRevolution · Mar 7, 2024

Yup, and we have approximately 9,000 in this state. What is being done to have them removed?

1

2

364

Relevant people

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels

@DavidMi47644829

...

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Countries like Venezuela are emptying their prisons, their mental institutions, and sending them to America. The White Hous...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1765513039795601862
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:33:56 GMT

Page 14 of 29

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

- Tod

@TodRevolution · Mar 7, 2024

Yup, and we have approximately 9,000 in this state. What is being done to have them removed?

1

2

364
- Writer Grl

@JustAWriter71 · Mar 7, 2024

You look like a cheap hooker. Stop with the filler and the hair extension. You will not be the VP.

3

1

11

274
- Frank Bravo

@BravofMe · Mar 7, 2024

#TrumpNoem

1

33
- Eric Yake

@YakeEric · Mar 7, 2024

You got some learning to do on Trump and Venezuela, before you put the other foot in your mouth. Oh wait... your mouth as 2 men in it.

2

11
- Jon MAGA is a CULT

@howsthat1959 · Mar 7, 2024

I see one of the mental patients became the Governor of South Dakota.

12
- Gratefulheart360

@delbra_lynn · Mar 7, 2024

@KristiNoem
Get serious. Comb your hair. Get rid of the hoop earrings. Straighten your shoulders. Then actually do something rather than pandering to the press with your "woe is us" routine. We know it's bad, but most of us are without the resources to do one thing about it.

23
- LFG!

@zcstocks · Mar 7, 2024

Illegal immigrants are illegal One World Army, created by WEF and UN to take over the United States of America.

9
- Ricky Clay

@ricky_clay · Mar 7, 2024

All in.

25
- kathryn strachan

@CtStormy · Mar 7, 2024

Relevant people

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off:
Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels

@DavidMi47644829



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post



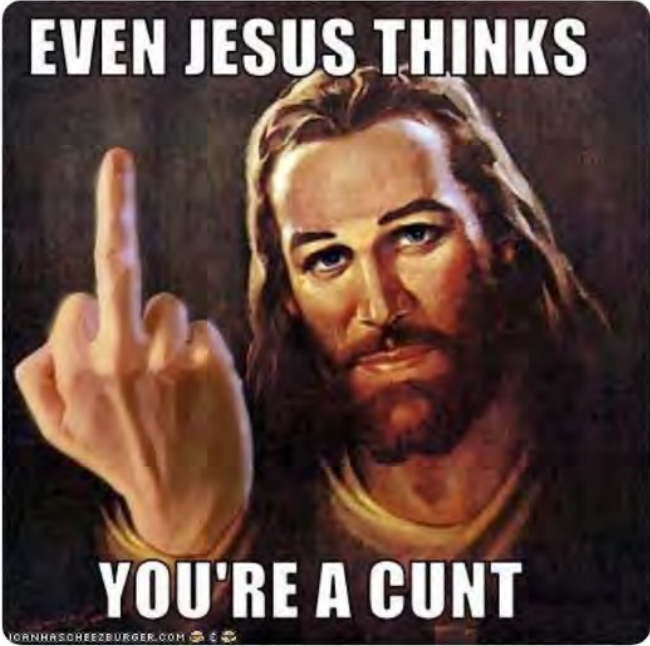
2 14

Blue Tsunami @SkyBlueTsunami · Mar 8, 2024
As Kirsti is at level 3 Meghan hair, we only have to hear from for another 6 months, tops.



75

🌂🌂🌂🌂 Oh Happy Day!!! 🌂🌂🌂🌂... @... · Mar 8, 2024
Idiot.



3

equality @RaymundoMonto16 · Mar 7, 2024

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Follow

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA) LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy Accessibility Ads info More... © 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

CheriNotCherry @H_AmorinForge · Mar 7, 2024
Traditionally married conservative "Christian" mother & adulteress recites lies on behalf of adjudicated rapist...

PS: @KristiNoem , since you get the Mar-A-Lago discount now, you may want to look in to a little refresher. The aging hooker look isnt doing you any favors.

1

36

NapaMan7862 @NapaMan7862 · Mar 7, 2024
We are sending them to South Dakota with the rest of the trash.

1

11

Niley @nileybhn · Mar 7, 2024
You look like a chola from the San Fernando Valley 🤔 You're beautiful you don't need all the extras!

21

truth seeker @holding_on29 · Mar 7, 2024
Trump said to "Blame ME!!!"

7

Rules_of_Lloyd @RulesLloyd · Mar 7, 2024

2

Cheryl L Abbate @cheryllabbate · Mar 7, 2024
She's lookin like a vampire...wth?

2

RGMartin @1RGMartin · Mar 7, 2024

6

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Fla Buckeye @GGjerb · Mar 7, 2024
MY VICE PRESIDENT!

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Follow

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy Accessibility Ads info More... © 2025 X Corp.



[illegible]

 **David Michaels** ...
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

 **Kristi Noem** 
@KristiNoem [Follow](#)

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening



4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

Trending in United States
#earthquake
43.8K posts

Trending in United States
Isagi
7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)
[Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#)
[Ads info](#)
[More...](#)

© 2025 X Corp.



David Michaels ...
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people



Kristi Noem ✓
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening



4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

Trending in United States
#earthquake
43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending
Ohio
49K posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)
[Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#)
[Ads info](#)
[More ...](#)
 © 2025 X Corp.



- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

- ... you know, you will learn
- Jack Hopkins** @thejackhopkins · Mar 7, 2024
STOP LYING.
- Magnificent Beast** @largemunster · Mar 7, 2024
What's up with that? Lost me.
- Dianne Callahan** @DianneCallaha16 · Mar 7, 2024
That's not true.
- GDawgs** @gadawg97 · Mar 7, 2024
Can you show us some proof please?
Hows Corey?
- RkoEsq** @EsqRko · Mar 7, 2024
Incredible allegations. Any evidence?
- Eric Oestmann** @OestmannEric · Mar 7, 2024
- John Fischer** @JohnCFischer_ · Mar 7, 2024
What a crock!
- Michael Orsburn** @Proserv12 · Mar 7, 2024
Great job!
Your husband is a lucky man! You are a very intelligent and beautiful lady! Keep up the good work!
- Dave B.** @az_dude79 · Mar 7, 2024
You are a liar.
- Celery** @almighty_cdawg · Mar 7, 2024
What's up with that rats nest? no mirrors in your house?
- Graham Heathcote** @4wding · Mar 7, 2024
Saying this type of bullshit should be treason.
- Dustin Lenz** @sauball3 · Mar 7, 2024
Lets return the favor and send our mentally ill population, democrats, to their countries
- Squish** @Squish69 · Mar 7, 2024
Oh the fear tactic. There is no proof of any of this,
- caseygirl** @MaryAnnDevine17 · Mar 7, 2024

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States
#earthquake
43.8K posts

Trending in United States
Isagi
7,340 posts

Trending in United States
Malibu
8,221 posts

Politics · Trending
Ohio
49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

- Squish** @Squish69 · Mar 7, 2024
Oh the fear tactic. There is no proof of any of this,

10
- caseygirl** @MaryAnnDevine17 · Mar 7, 2024
Lie.

4
- Charis** 🇺🇸 🌻 @CharisHamilton8 · Mar 7, 2024
Weaponized stupidity

5
- Mar** @Mrey571957 · Mar 7, 2024
My God get a 🍷

6
- gone to bluer skies** @DavidCh80671676 · Mar 8, 2024
Trump admires Venezuelan President.

6
- Greg Nichols** @Greg_JN · Mar 7, 2024
I bet Biden doesn't even know about it, in between flavors of ice cream 🍦!

10
- Specker** @specker99 · Mar 7, 2024
- 43
- Witch Tracy** 🇵🇷 @Tracy23460365 · Mar 7, 2024
Proof, please.

2
- KB 3.0** @SDdude420 · Mar 7, 2024
They're sending their prisons and mental institutions to America 🤔

1
- MAGA Filth Patrol** @Boner60 · Mar 7, 2024
The only invasion of any kind, of any people whatsoever, is the one Cory did on your southern border while you were committing adultery with him. Christian Values!

1
- YachatsSteve** 🇺🇸 🌻 @stevepaul59 · Mar 7, 2024
Hypocrisy Hussy's posse is way more dangerous than any mother escaping the American made crisis. Blinders were made for working beasts of burden, not your xtian nationalist. Your shenanigans with Koskan tells me you might have info about this with monstrosity. (No jail time?)

Relevant people

Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake
43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi
7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu
8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio
49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service · Privacy Policy · Cookie Policy · Accessibility · Ads info · More...

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829 ...

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Countries like Venezuela are emptying their prisons, their mental institutions, and sending them to America. The White Hous...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1765513039795601862
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:33:56 GMT

Page 22 of 29

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

hypocrisy nussy s posse is way more dangerous than any mother escaping the American made crisis. Blinders were made for working beasts of burden, not your xtian nationalist. Your shenanigans with Koskan tells me you might have info about this with monstrosity. (No jail time?)

YachatsSteve @stevepaul59 · Mar 7, 2024

Liberty University Goes Down As UNTHINKABLE Student Punishment Exposed #TDR youtu.be/esWjtG8z0vc?si... via @YouTube

1

35

Ron @MarEngRetired · Mar 7, 2024

Don't forget Haiti

1

18

Vanessa @Vanessa01336830 · Mar 7, 2024

Lies and more lies

1

55

Joe Maurer @moore144675 · Mar 7, 2024

That is why we need Trump

1

16

JB @JBCalifornia57 · Mar 7, 2024

Kristi Noem for VP!

1

45

sheshe2 @sheshe224866221 · Mar 7, 2024

What is with all the fake hair, is it prom night?

1

19

Martyn Peel #FBPE @martynpeel · Mar 7, 2024

1

8

Turd Ferguson @FergtheTurd · Mar 7, 2024

What's with the hair and the hoops? You look ridiculous. Straight from the trailer.

1

12

Brian Riley @rileybriannv · Mar 7, 2024

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829 ...

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Countries like Venezuela are emptying their prisons, their mental institutions, and sending them to America. The White Hous...
Capture URL: <https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1765513039795601862>
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:33:56 GMT

Page 23 of 29

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Post

hypocrisy nussy s posse is way more dangerous than any mother escaping the American made crisis. Blinders were made for working beasts of burden, not your xtian nationalist. Your shenanigans with Koskan tells me you might have info about this with monstrosity. (No jail time?)

YachatsSteve

@stevepaul59 · Mar 7, 2024

Liberty University Goes Down As UNTHINKABLE Student Punishment Exposed #TDR yououtu.be/esWjtG8z0vc?si... via @YouTube

Ron

@MarEngRetired · Mar 7, 2024

Don't forget Haiti

Vanessa

@Vanessa01336830 · Mar 7, 2024

Lies and more lies

Joe Maurer

@moore144675 · Mar 7, 2024

That is why we need Trump

JB

@JBCalifornia57 · Mar 7, 2024

Kristi Noem for VP! 🇺🇸

sheshe2

@sheshe224866221 · Mar 7, 2024

What is with all the fake hair, is it prom night?

Martyn Peel

#FBPE @martynpeel · Mar 7, 2024

Turd Ferguson

@FergtheTurd · Mar 7, 2024

What's with the hair and the hoops? You look ridiculous. Straight from the trailer.

Brian Riley

@rileybriannv · Mar 7, 2024

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)

LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829 ...

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "Countries like Venezuela are emptying their prisons, their mental institutions, and sending them to America. The White Hous...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1765513039795601862
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:33:56 GMT

Page 24 of 29



1 5

Ny718 @Ny718allday · Mar 7, 2024
Thanks to TRUMP!! He used the DED to give them legal status in the U.S.



Members of the audience wave Venezuelan and American flags as President Donald Trump speaks to a Venezuelan American community in Miami, Fla., on Feb. 18, 2019. | Andrew Harnik/AP Photo

By SABRINA RODRIGUEZ
01/19/2021 09:24 PM EST

President Donald Trump on Tuesday announced he will offer Venezuelan exiles protection from deportation, a move he has considered for years but refused to do until his last full day in office.

Trump is using the little-known Deferred Enforced Departure program, or DED, to offer temporary legal status to Venezuelans fleeing the humanitarian crisis brought on by Nicolás Maduro's regime. DED, similar to Temporary Protected Status or TPS, protects recipients from deportation and allows them to get work permits. However, it is granted directly by the president instead of the Department of Homeland Security.

4

CommonSense&FactsMat... @thecarbonar... · Mar 7, 2024
Don't you have infidelity to commit since you're part of the party of "family values"? Lies on top of lies on top of adultery

10

peter lupoff @peterlupoff · Mar 7, 2024
THEY'RE COMING FOR OUR WHITE WOMEN!! 🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸🇺🇸

6

BustedGril\$\$\$ @xSilentWindx · Mar 7, 2024
Nobody can take you seriously with that mop on your head.

4

Alpine Traverse @TraverseAlpine · Mar 7, 2024
Cite your source, bitch.

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States
#earthquake
43.8K posts

Trending in United States
Isagi
7,340 posts

Trending in United States
Malibu
8,221 posts

Politics · Trending
Ohio
49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.



- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829



- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

**Steve Craig** @stevecraig72 · Mar 7, 2024

From wsj.com

Retweet 10

**Jose Ortega** @dosxxamber · Mar 7, 2024

Not factual, but then it's Kristi Noem.

Retweet 13

**Susie.....An American Vo...** @susie_lastna... · Mar 7, 2024

Wanna bet she has "Pretty Little Liar" on her calling card.

Retweet 25

**Bdorf** @bdorf97 · Mar 7, 2024

Trump puppet says what?

Retweet 6

**Eugene Watson** @rewatson79 · Mar 7, 2024

Stop lying to the idiots.

Retweet 68

**MAC V SOG 68 69** @MACVSOG68691 · Mar 7, 2024

Send them all back period

Retweet 29

**Bob F. Apples** @TheBoz26510221 · Mar 7, 2024

It's unacceptable.

Retweet 18

**Bruce** @brucman66 · Mar 7, 2024

Where's the proof of this. I want facts. Something @KristiNoem and the rest of MAGA is incapable of providing.

Retweet 4

**Noreen Liebrock** @NoreenLiebrock · Mar 7, 2024False
Republicans (trump) refused to pass the strictest bipartisan immigration bill that we've had in years

Retweet

**Random** 🐔 - 🤪 🇺🇸 🇺🇸 @NoMoreTrumpShit · Mar 7, 2024

dumb fvcking lies

Retweet 7

**Sammy4justice2** @WT_FUCK4 · Mar 7, 2024

THANKS TO trump...NOT BIDEN!!!!!!

**David Michaels** @DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

**Kristi Noem** @KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

**4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)** LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

- OD Chivers** @ODChivers · Mar 7, 2024
Stop with the lies.

7
- D.E.Marsh** (Formerly NotS... @DMarsh... · Mar 7, 2024
Wow, that's the same #Crazy talk that tRump is echoing... That proves how nuts you are.

2

11
- StrongAsTrees** @strongastrees · Mar 7, 2024
What's with the hooker hairdo?

4

75
- mj** @jensen_49 · Mar 7, 2024
Maybe if we send all the MAGA Republicans to Venezuela, we would be even

4

100
- Skyclad_Conjurings** @CSkyclad · Mar 7, 2024
Lying, adulterous trash.

2

14
- Holly** @hollybRN07 · Mar 7, 2024
Republicans lie all day long

1

101
- Bob Schwab** @BobSchwab7 · Mar 7, 2024
Let's put Corey on the job



- 5
- Edward W. Moore** @TweetMoore · Mar 7, 2024
They will fit right in with the MAGA movement.

4

422
- Poloplayboy** @mallieg1023 · Mar 7, 2024
1) It was Trump that gave Venezuelan refugees easier access
2) How do you know what Venezuela is doing? Do you have some inside knowledge from their side?
3) Stop using the work Invasion to justify your racism and

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Follow

What's happening

4 Nations Face-Off: Unveiled (NHL/NHLPA)
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

43.8K posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,340 posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,221 posts

Politics · Trending

Ohio

49K posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.



Exhibit 27

- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post



Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem



At least 300,000 illegal immigrants from Venezuela have been encountered at the border. Remember, Venezuela emptied their prisons and told them to come to America.

Far too few have been deported. If we don't want more families grieving like Laken Riley's, that has to change.



4:24 PM · Mar 14, 2024 · 28.2K Views



149



299



922



13



Post your reply

Reply



AMAC @AMACforAmerica · Mar 14, 2024

Remember: A vote for Biden is a vote for Harris

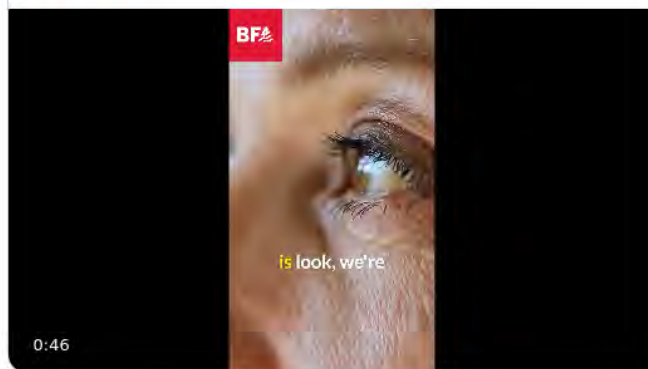


AMAC @AMACforAmerica · Mar 14, 2024

"I don't know how you watch him (Biden) over a period of time, and imagine that if he wins in November, that somehow he is going to be president four years later. So my point is, a vote for President Biden is a vote for President Kamala Harris."

...

[Show more](#)



1



5



3



473



Valentina Gomez @ValentinaForUSA · Mar 14, 2024

Lets start mass deportations!



6



5



30



755



The Bar Sheet Weekly @BarSheetWeekly · Mar 14, 2024

LOL. Nice teeth.



David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829



Relevant people



Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening



Khloé in Wonder Land
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

44K posts

Music · Trending

Cher

22.2K posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,290 posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,461 posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Let's start mass deportations!

6 5 30 755

The Bar Sheet Weekly™ @BarSheetWeekly · Mar 14, 2024

LOL. Nice teeth.

2 90

Kevin Jennings @MarkVNavyDiver · Mar 14, 2024

The US builds prisons in each country willing to receive illegals that committed non victim crimes in the US. Trials are carried out remotely, and sentences served in their native country. Cheaper and inhibits crime in the US.

2 246

SDChick @jacqedinger · Mar 14, 2024

Blame Trump - Trump signed an executive order deferring the removal of Venezuelans who were at risk of being sent back. He cited the "deteriorative condition" within Venezuela that constitutes a national security threat as the basis for his decision.

2 94

Blue_for_Life @Blue_for_life88 · Mar 14, 2024

MEMORANDUM

PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDA

Memorandum on
Deferred Enforced
Departure for Certain
Venezuelans

FOREIGN POLICY

Issued on: January 19, 2021

★ ★ ★

ALL NEWS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

13

Lucas Mueller @muellerl25 · Mar 14, 2024

More complaining from the GOP. No solutions from the GOP.

2 67

Dr. Vladimir Joukov @vladijoukov · Mar 15, 2024

US Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas is in charge of the security of our borders. As a "God's chosen person", he's the one who decides whether to keep our borders open or sealed. We, gentiles, have no power over him, esp after your HB176. Ask Israel for help.

91

Common Sense #1 @PleaseThink1776 · Mar 14, 2024

Trump passed legislation that stoped deportation of people from Venezuela

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land LIVE

Trending in United States
#earthquake
44K posts

Music · Trending
Cher
22.2K posts

Trending in United States
Malibu
8,290 posts

Trending in United States
Isagi
7,461 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy Accessibility Ads info More...

© 2025 X Corp.

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "At least 300,000 illegal immigrants from Venezuela have been encountered at the border. Remember, Venezuela emptied...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1768312288560247199
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:39:51 GMT

Page 2 of 24

X

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post



1 198

Doug Matatall @DougMatatall3 · Mar 14, 2024
yeah, yeah, yeah.

And Venezuelas' crime rate has plummeted.
About 50 Republicans beat you to the punch...

14 Hatey Hate @NickGurr14_88 · Mar 14, 2024
Send them to israel

Michele @ScreamingMemeMe · Mar 15, 2024
You can't even govern you own state...you have no idea what's going on in other states! MIND YOUR OWN STATE!
In the meantime you have an affair to continue...



4

Michele @ScreamingMemeMe · Mar 15, 2024



David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Follow

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

44K posts

Music · Trending

Cher

22.2K posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,290 posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,461 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy Accessibility Ads info More...
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

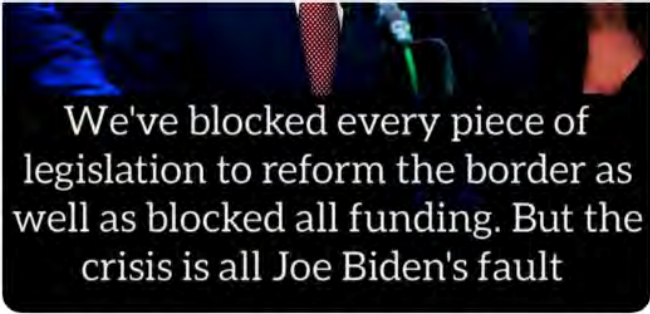
Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post



- F Trump** @manuelantoniobc · Mar 15, 2024
How many encounters has there been with @CLewandowski_ in your pants

2
- VSpark** @VSpark176207 · Mar 15, 2024
Guess whose policies caused this? 🤔🤔

3
- Allan Suttor** @ASuttor31119 · Mar 15, 2024
Venzualans are the best

4
- Lonny Bardash** @LonnyBardash · Mar 15, 2024
How many fanatical murderous rapists entered and deported?

13

christianpost.com
Suspected terrorists entering US with fake IDs...
FBI Director Christopher Wray warned of an increase in the number of known or suspecte...

- Nora Eagle** @MZepeda19 · Mar 14, 2024

10
- in the United States as of Jan. 20, 2021, except for those:

- Who have voluntarily returned to Venezuela or their country of last habitual residence outside the United States;
 - Who have not continuously resided in the United States since Jan. 20, 2021;
 - Who are inadmissible under section 212(a)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) ([8 U.S.C. 1182\(a\)\(3\)](#)) or removable under section 237(a)(4) of the INA ([8 U.S.C. 1227\(a\)\(4\)](#));
 - Who have been convicted of any felony or two or more misdemeanors committed in the United States, or who meet the criteria set forth in section 208(b)(2)(A) of the INA ([8 U.S.C. 1158\(b\)\(2\)\(A\)](#));
 - Who were deported, excluded, or removed before Jan. 20, 2021;
 - Who are subject to extradition;
 - Whose presence in the United States the secretary of Homeland Security has determined is not in the interest of the United States or presents a danger to public safety; or
 - Whose presence in the United States the secretary of State has reasonable grounds to believe would have potentially serious adverse foreign policy consequences for the United States.

1

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Follow

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

44K posts

Music · Trending

Cher

22.2K posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,290 posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,461 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More...
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

• Whose presence in the United States the secretary of State has reasonable grounds to believe would have potentially serious adverse foreign policy consequences for the United States.

Janet Iams Shannon @avgusergirl · Mar 15, 2024

Sound familiar?



From politico.com

pmandvik @pmandvik · Mar 14, 2024



jreb @profjimr · Mar 14, 2024

Actually, this has to be undone. Illegals should not get to stay here.

NotYourOrdinaryGranny @NoOr... · Mar 15, 2024

And the border bill to help that is being stopped by @SpeakerJohnson .

Talk to them

ggg @Mab88630840Mab · Mar 15, 2024

Not an illegal immigrant

KandyKorn reposted

Beks @antifaoperative · 1h

Texas police officer, Rodney Price, has been arrested for secretly recording a child

Relevant people

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land

LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

44K posts

Music · Trending

Cher

22.2K posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,290 posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,461 posts

Show more

Terms of Service · Privacy Policy · Cookie Policy

Accessibility · Ads info · More...

© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "At least 300,000 illegal immigrants from Venezuela have been encountered at the border. Remember, Venezuela emptied...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1768312288560247199
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:39:51 GMT

Page 6 of 24

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post



Michigan_Chick 🇺🇸 🇩🇪 🇫🇷 🇮🇹 @Michigan_Ch... · Mar 15, 2024 ...



Jon MAGA is a CULT 🇺🇸 @howsthat1959 · Mar 14, 2024 ...

Mack @KylesSpeeches · Mar 15, 2024 ...



David Michaels @DavidMi47644829 ...

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land LIVE

- Trending in United States

#earthquake

44K posts
- Music · Trending

Cher

22.2K posts
- Trending in United States

Malibu

8,290 posts
- Trending in United States

Isagi

7,461 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy Accessibility Ads info More ... © 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

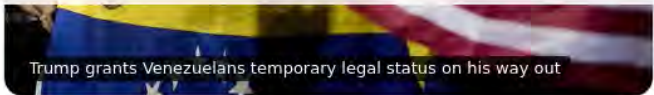
Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post



From politico.com

- Vivek knew!** @GpKennedy · Mar 15, 2024
Can you ask Lumpy Bloomers to take a few of her welcome packs to them Kristi? Matthew 25:35 I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger, and you took me into your home

10
- GHGIRL-No Mouse** @ghgirl_s · Mar 14, 2024
The lawsuit for your 'war-zone smile' must have you so mad. So darn mad, that you'll spew lies about the border to try and get the news off your 'war-zone teeth,' right? Is that a frown?

23
- Alicia** @pinkcatamount · Mar 14, 2024
Well, that's because Trump granted Venezuelans, along with Cubans, special status on his way out of office. Apparently a gift to his voters in FL. No wonder Venezuela decided to empty their prisons and send them up here. This one is your guy's fault

8
- Robin Eublind** @iamrobineublind · Mar 15, 2024
No, they did not empty their prisons Governor Barbie. You're fear mongering and lying, again.

3
- JJ** @joshjour65 · Mar 15, 2024
That is about 100k high. Biden extended per se trumps out the door EO on Venezuelans. Did you bitch then?

2
- Patricia Padron Fonda** @abuelaofanarchy · Mar 14, 2024

Content warning: Sensitive content
The author labeled this post as containing sensitive content.

Show

- David Michaels** @DavidMi47644829

28
- John Davis** @aumkarasd · Mar 15, 2024

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Follow

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

44K posts

Music · Trending

Cher

22.2K posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,290 posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,461 posts

Show more

Terms of Service · Privacy Policy · Cookie Policy · Accessibility · Ads info · More

© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

John Davis @aumkarasid · Mar 15, 2024
Trump protected Venezuelans from being deported. @gop refuses to fix the border

1

28

Craig Franco @CraigFranco04 · Mar 14, 2024
2028

2

Jimmy P (Gilbert AZ) @gilbertjimp · Mar 14, 2024

50

Michelle McCoy @MichelleMccoy02 · Mar 14, 2024
So What? Do your job ! Teeth Thief

95



David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

44K posts

Music · Trending

Cher

22.2K posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,290 posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,461 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy Accessibility Ads info More... © 2025 X Corp.



...



© 2025 X Corp.

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Crime & Corrections

Health Care

RANKING

RANKING

#42

#33

Rank

Rank

1

51

scifi life @life_scifi · Mar 14, 2024



mj @jensen_49 · Mar 14, 2024

Trying to divert attention away from yourself. You lie through your teeth..pun intended

4

35

#RIPGOP 🇺🇸 @_ReaalAmerican_ · Mar 14, 2024

MARCH 2024
TRUMP SAID HE PLANS TO CUT
MEDICARE + SOCIAL SECURITY.

2

93

#RIPGOP 🇺🇸 @_ReaalAmerican_ · Mar 14, 2024

#RIPGOP

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land

LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

44K posts

Music · Trending

Cher

22.2K posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,290 posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,461 posts

Show more

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

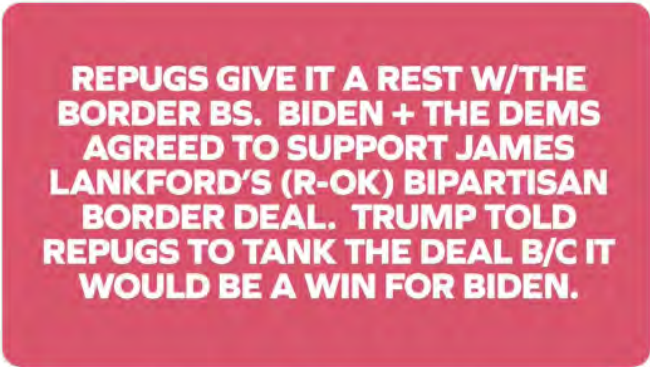
Profile

More

Post



#RIPGOP @_ReaalAmerican_ · Mar 14, 2024



1 3 91

Debra Ponto @PontoDebra · Mar 14, 2024

You lie, yet talk about Christian values. What about the families of the victims in all the mass shootings that were born and raised here? Only one person counts so you can use that as political agenda? You are shameful.

5 59

Angelcrusher @Angelcrusher · Mar 14, 2024

Because Trump gave them legal status.



David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

44K posts

Music · Trending

Cher

22.2K posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,290 posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,461 posts

Show more

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#) [Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

2

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post



fatblock @1fatblock · Mar 15, 2024

Members of the audience wave Venezuelan and American flags as President Donald Trump speaks to a Venezuelan American community in Miami, Fla., on Feb. 18, 2019. | Andrew Hamik/AP Photo

By SARRINA RODRIGUEZ
01/19/2021 09:24 PM EST

President Donald Trump on Tuesday announced he will offer Venezuelan exiles protection from deportation, a move he has considered for years but refused to do until his last full day in office.

Trump is using the little-known Deferred Enforced Departure program, or DED, to offer temporary legal status to Venezuelans fleeing the humanitarian crisis brought on by Nicolás Maduro's regime. DED, similar to Temporary Protected Status or TPS, protects recipients from deportation and allows them to get work permits. However, it is granted directly by the president instead of the Department of Homeland Security.

17

AJ @RubyStar_22 · Mar 15, 2024

Prove this! PROVE IT! Fear mongering and lie is all you do!! Oh wait, I forgot about making commercials in exchange for who knows what.....

10

GUSTAH STANDS WITH UK... @WinnieJ93... · Mar 15, 2024

DON'T COMPLAIN! PASS LANKFORD'S BILL!

6

AV @ajv44 · Mar 15, 2024

Did you brush your teeth today?

6

Nasty Kitty @ChrisZubat · Mar 14, 2024

Grieving family and their cult leader



David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

44K posts

Music · Trending

Cher

22.2K posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,290 posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,461 posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More...](#)

© 2025 X Corp.



Home

Explore

2

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post

Post



1

23

Godless Heathen

@heathen_godless · Mar 14, 2024

Trump invited them.

1

EMPLOYMENT & IMMIGRATION

Trump grants Venezuelans temporary legal status on his way out

The U.S. will defer for 18 months the removal of certain Venezuelan nationals.



1

6

58

Charlie Newquist

  @CharlieNewquist · Mar 16, 2024

Gosh, I wonder why so many Venezuelans decided to come here...

Based on Trump's memo, the U.S. will defer for 18 months the removal of certain Venezuelan nationals present in the U.S. on Jan. 20. It also allows those Venezuelans to work during that period of time. Jan 19, 2021

https://www.politico.com · news

Trump grants Venezuelans temporary legal status on his way out - POLITICO

About featured snippets Feedback

AP News

apnews.com

Trump blocks Venezuelans' deportation in last political gift

Jan 19, 2021 — President Donald Trump has shielded tens of thousands of Venezuelan migrants from deportation from the U.S.

WSJ

www.wsj.com

Trump Approves Deportation Protections for Venezuelans in U.S. Illegally

Jan 19, 2021 — The action comes under the Deferred Enforced Departure program that offers deportation protections and work permits to immigrants in the ...



8

Lynne Morse

@Lynneandkids · Mar 14, 2024

Noem for VP!!!!

14

A GREAT NOTICER

@sawwingdust · Mar 14, 2024

Your masters are promoting this.

17

Search

Relevant people



Kristi Noem

@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening



Khloé in Wonder Land

LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

44K posts

Music · Trending

Cher

22.2K posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,290 posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,461 posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More...

© 2025 X Corp.

Grok

Document title: (2) Kristi Noem on X: "At least 300,000 illegal immigrants from Venezuela have been encountered at the border. Remember, Venezuela emptied...
Capture URL: https://x.com/KristiNoem/status/1768312288560247199
Capture timestamp (UTC): Sat, 15 Feb 2025 08:39:51 GMT

Page 18 of 24



- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

- A GREAT NOTICER** @sawwingdust · Mar 14, 2024
Your masters are promoting this.
- Mack Piotrowski** @mackpio · Mar 15, 2024
Next VP
- DrezInLA VOTE BLUE** @Andrez68LA · Mar 14, 2024
Eat shit
- Mark Redlin** @mark_redli14486 · Mar 14, 2024
- mukluk** @DanMcCollu15644 · Mar 14, 2024
Texas Governor Abbott is in Europe. Who's watching the border while he's gone. A few weeks ago everyone was down there Standing with Texas. Now you guys are leaving it wide open or did you fix the crisis. Confused mega supporter here ,do I still blame Biden ?
- Kelly** @KellyforGod · Mar 14, 2024
- No Party Juice** @nopartyjuice · Mar 15, 2024
Tell your Jewish Kalergi Plan paymasters to stop shipping them here, and lobbying for open border immigration policies.
- Bret** @WokeLeftyGuy · Mar 15, 2024
Now define "encounter" as opposed to "crossed the border and disappeared into the country with whereabouts unknown."

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

- Khloé in Wonder Land** LIVE
- Trending in United States
#earthquake
44K posts
- Music · Trending
Cher
22.2K posts
- Trending in United States
Malibu
8,290 posts
- Trending in United States
Isagi
7,461 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.

David Michaels @DavidMi47644829



- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post

Bret @WokeLeftyGuy · Mar 15, 2024
Now define "encounter" as opposed to "crossed the border and disappeared into the country with whereabouts unknown."
As always, you MAGAs pray on the uninformed who accept your exaggerations as gospel.

#FuckMAGA

Jill @blukesmom · Mar 14, 2024
How much money did you get for your teeth? Are you gonna buy a little cottage for you and Corey?

Pierce Caravan @Piercecaravan · Mar 15, 2024
I wonder how many of them have had affairs?



Gregg's Cell @greggscell · Mar 14, 2024



David Michaels @DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land LIVE

Trending in United States
#earthquake
44K posts

Music · Trending
Cher
22.2K posts

Trending in United States
Malibu
8,290 posts

Trending in United States
Isagi
7,461 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More...
© 2025 X Corp.

Home

Explore

Notifications

Messages

Grok

Lists

Bookmarks

Jobs

Communities

Premium

Verified Orgs

Profile

More

Post



- Liberty Jones** @LibertyJones2 · Mar 14, 2024
Open Border: You see, their goal, besides illegal votes is to procure as many fighting-age males as possible. Can you guess why? In order to implement their own personal militia and come after all MAGA conservatives! Oh it's coming. I encourage all of you to buy more guns!

4
- Nigel Lew** @NigelLew2 · Mar 14, 2024
Trump gave 400,000 of them amnesty. Kindly STFU.

9
- Mountain Momma** @twainhartemom · Mar 15, 2024
How many of those migrants has Greg Abbott bused into sanctuary cities, Kristi and how much has South Dakota contributed to his cause?

3
- Chingao Sullivan** @ChingaoSullivan · Mar 14, 2024
You should try sitting in the Pine Ridge student section

5
- steve** @steve63537426 · Mar 14, 2024
Why did you go to Texas to get your teeth cleaned??

3
- Liddle' JirkyRick** @jirkyrick · Mar 14, 2024
I wonder why?



Members of the audience wave Venezuelan and American flags as President Donald Trump speaks to a Venezuelan American community in Miami, Fla., on Feb. 18, 2019. | Andrew Harnik/AP Photo

By **SABRINA RODRIGUEZ**
01/19/2021 09:24 PM EST

President Donald Trump on Tuesday announced he will offer Venezuelan exiles protection from deportation, a move he has considered for years but refused to do until his last full day in office.

Trump is using the little-known Deferred Enforced Departure program, or DED, to offer temporary legal status to Venezuelans fleeing the humanitarian crisis brought on by Nicolás Maduro's regime. DED, similar to Temporary Protected Status or TPS, protects recipients from deportation and allows them to get work permits. However, it is granted directly by the president instead of the Department of Homeland Security.

- 3
- Shelly** @Shelly71431539 · Mar 14, 2024
Hey I hear Venezuela is a really nice guy.

7

David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people

Kristi Noem @KristiNoem
Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

Follow

What's happening

Khloé in Wonder Land LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

44K posts

Music · Trending

Cher

22.2K posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,290 posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,461 posts

Show more

Terms of Service

Privacy Policy

Cookie Policy

Accessibility

Ads info

More

© 2025 X Corp.





Home



Explore



Notifications



Messages



Grok



Lists



Bookmarks



Jobs



Communities



Premium



Verified Orgs



Profile



More

Post



Shelly @Shelly71431539 · Mar 14, 2024
Hey I hear Venezuela is a really nice guy.



7



Ruthie Kitty/2012! @2012Ruthie · Mar 14, 2024
And you cheated on your husband with a punk Trump sycophant, and would force children to have children. And there is this!



54



John @John08362652 · Mar 14, 2024
FOR OVER A CENTURY, DEMOCRAT PRESIDENTS HAVE SOAKED THEIR HANDS IN INNOCENT AMERICAN BLOOD! Lyndon JOHNSON poster beast for unnecessary carnage.



17



David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people



Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening



Khloé in Wonder Land
LIVE

Trending in United States
#earthquake
44K posts

Music · Trending
Cher
22.2K posts

Trending in United States
Malibu
8,290 posts

Trending in United States
Isagi
7,461 posts

[Show more](#)

[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)
[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More...](#)
© 2025 X Corp.





- Home
- Explore
- Notifications
- Messages
- Grok
- Lists
- Bookmarks
- Jobs
- Communities
- Premium
- Verified Orgs
- Profile
- More

Post



17



Bob Todd @Bob_ToddiAMU · Mar 14, 2024

Our Morning Read Psalm 107

Thoughts on conditioning to be OK with not good, subliminally.



9



I'm still your Mom's favorite... @sdnorse... · Mar 14, 2024

Thanks trump...



38



Dr. C Ismael , MD @JaeSea1 · Mar 14, 2024

Aren't you supposed to be deepthroating Israel and creating more laws for the tiny percent of your South Dakota population?

22

Show probable spam



David Michaels
@DavidMi47644829

Relevant people



Kristi Noem
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening



Khloé in Wonder Land
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

44K posts

Music · Trending

Cher

22.2K posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,290 posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,461 posts

Show more

Terms of Service Privacy Policy Cookie Policy
Accessibility Ads info More ...
© 2025 X Corp.



GROK



Home



Explore



Notifications



Messages



Grok



Lists



Bookmarks



Jobs



Communities



Premium



Verified Orgs



Profile



More

Post

[Show probable spam](#)

Relevant people

**Kristi Noem**
@KristiNoem

Follow

Wife, mother, grandma, farmer, rancher, and small business owner. Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Former Governor of South Dakota.

What's happening

**Khloé in Wonder Land**
LIVE

Trending in United States

#earthquake

44K posts

Music · Trending

Cher

22.2K posts

Trending in United States

Malibu

8,290 posts

Trending in United States

Isagi

7,461 posts

[Show more](#)[Terms of Service](#) [Privacy Policy](#) [Cookie Policy](#)[Accessibility](#) [Ads info](#) [More](#)

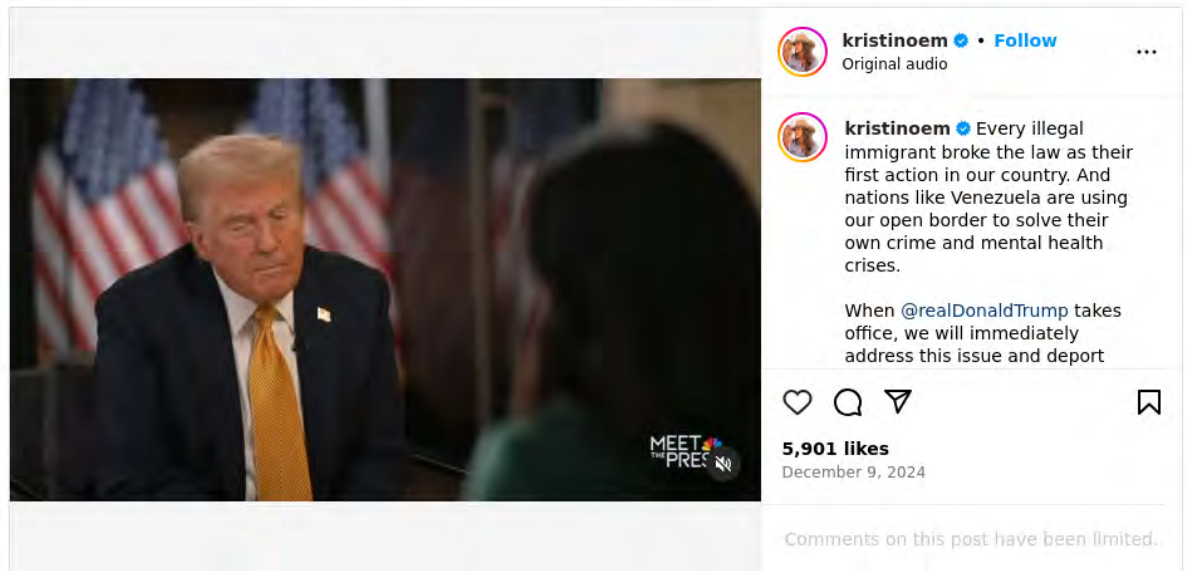
© 2025 X Corp.

**David Michaels**
@DavidMi47644829

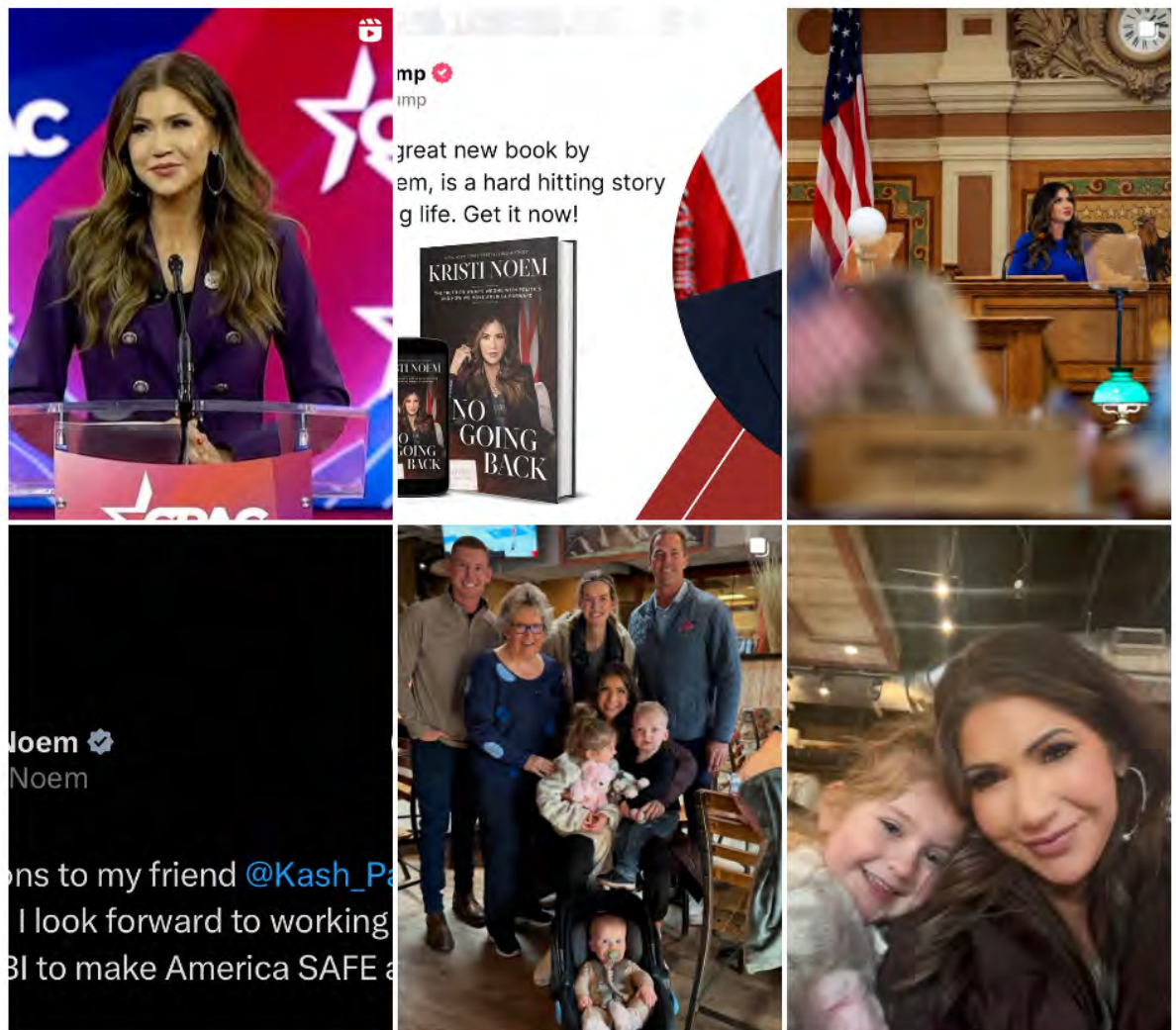
Exhibit 28

Instagram

- Home
- Search
- Explore
- Reels
- Messages
- Notifications
- Create
- Profile



More posts from kristinoem



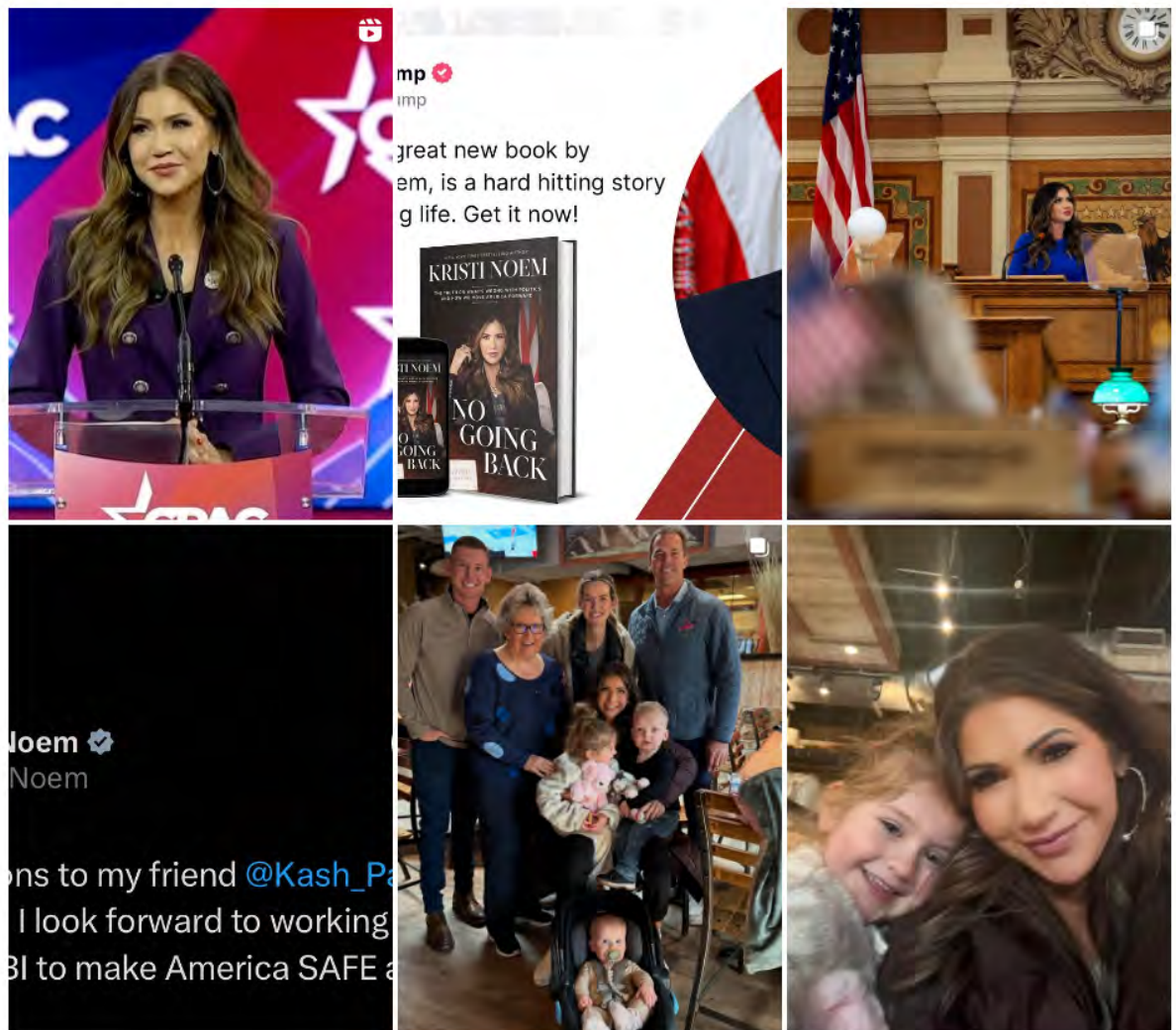
- AI Studio
- Threads
- More

Instagram

- Home
- Search
- Explore
- Reels
- Messages
- Notifications
- Create
- Profile



More posts from kristinoem



- AI Studio
- Threads
- More